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Financial, Economic Reform Discussed
34420054b Lisbon EXPRESSO (PORTUGALAFRICA Supplement) 14 Nov 87 pp 11-12

[Article by Rui Ramos]

[Text] Twelve years after independence, the People's Republic of Angola is launching into a new economic-financial policy.

A basic component of that policy is the so-called Economic-Financial Reorganization (SEF), which the Angolan Government intends to begin this January and which will be under the direction of a technical team established within the Angolan-Hungarian Secretariat. In fact, the Hungarians have been called upon by the authorities to be the chief advisers to the SEF.

So this is a reform in the direction not of the Western model but, on the contrary, of the reformist patterns of East European socialism.

The Luanda government says that the need to restructure the entire economic-financial system is based on the observation that the population's purchasing power is deteriorating. But that is not the only reason. Low labor productivity, the huge public domestic debt, the inability of the banking system to remunerate foreign capital, and growing foreign indebtedness are other important factors that led Angolan authorities to opt for change. They have just applied for their country's admission to the IMF.

"By dispersing productive, human, technical, and material forces among multiple activities, the state has been unable to avoid a deterioration of the services for which it is responsible," says the SEF's draft document, and it adds: "On the contrary, the state's presence in small business and in services has not prevented the more or less illegal flourishing of private enterprise in those areas."

The document's authors say: "It is therefore necessary to reexamine the redimensioning of the state sector and the supervision of the private sector."

Developing the Private Sector

It is thus being acknowledged that things are going badly and that there is no solution to the crisis within the current practice of gigantism in the state bureaucracy and the illegal status of any private investment.

Following that line of reasoning, the SEF intends to develop retail trade (which is practically nonexistent at present), transportation, civil construction (nonexistent), agriculture and stockraising, and handicrafts, those being considered areas propitious to "development of the private sector."

In addition—and for the first time since independence—recognition is being given to the "great dynamism of small and medium-sized enterprises" characterized by "a high degree of specialization."

The importance of the private sector—the keystone of the thinking that dominates the SEF—is also recognized in the sector of services in the cities. The document admits: "Our cities, mainly the capital, have a gloomy look, and life in the cities is hard due to the nonexistence of services."

Anyone familiar with Angolan cities can readily see an enormous gap in infrastructures and in productive and commercial life along with the omnipresence of the unproductive state sector. The population's needs are all met through "arrangements" which the government tolerates and even uses most of the time.

That is what the authors of the document are now calling "the glum tone secreted by the prominence of the state bureaucracy."

The proposal says that the bureaucracy must be reformed by drawing up a statute governing government workers. Such a statute does not exist at present.

But that is not all. Economic reforms are also anticipated, the object being to shift the decisionmaking center for investments from the ministries to the enterprises. This is something new in the People's Republic of Angola. Lastly, the SEF intends to reestablish conditions for the recovery and expansion of domestic production. All of this is summed up in an innovative formula: "the upgrading of wages."

That upgrading is aimed at ensuring permanent correspondence between the level of incomes and the volume of production and at channeling investment into sectors more capable of absorbing technical progress.

It is undeniable, the document says, that "the economic policy has failed in this essential respect: the increase in purchasing power has led neither to improved consumption nor to increased savings."

Burden of Foreign Debt

As a consequence, the inability of the financial system to serve as the vehicle of domestic income has caused the budget deficits, the deterioration in the assets of the enterprises, and the quasibankruptcy of the banking system. There is one single cause of all those problems: "the disruption of the monetary and financial system."

According to the authors of the document, reorganization of the country's overall accounts will therefore have to "begin with the foreign debt and then proceed immediately to the governmental, banking, and business sectors and to individuals."

In line with that methodology, the SEF is recommending two packages of measures, the first to be implemented within 2 years and the second to begin during the third year. Financial equilibrium (profitability of the enterprises, the country's external solvency, and bank remuneration of capital) and economic growth are, therefore, the two necessary conditions for implementation of the SEF.

In the first phase, the SEF's priority action will be focused on the "establishment of the premises of national independence, which is currently jeopardized by the crisis of external insolvency." The experts who drew up the proposal feel that to achieve that goal, it is urgent that there be an "effort to investigate the foreign debt and then to extend the repayment periods through negotiation with creditors."

Deep Crisis

But the country's crisis goes deeper. The internal disequilibrium of the state's accounts has been hindering all attempts to make progress. The document admits that the state budget shows a "large deficit caused by military spending and the state-owned business sector."

To remedy that disequilibrium, the SEF is proposing a tax reform based on the principles of progressive taxation and a plan for financing the war effort domestically.

From the economic standpoint, the SEF anticipates a change in the investment mechanisms, with investments to be based on self-financing and domestic loans. Another innovation: an updating of the price system with a view to adapting it to the new wage costs and the prices of imported products.

In the second phase, the SEF intends to grant the enterprises price-setting autonomy. Something else that is new: a change in wage policy that will compel enterprises to pay at least a nationwide minimum wage but leave them free to decide on wage increases.

It should be recalled that the wage policy in Angola has been subjected to a freeze, with increases being determined at the central level by the single union organization.

A change in the law on foreign investment is also among the proposals being made by the SEF, which intends to make the foreign investor a partner in the management and risks of business activity.

In the second [as published] phase, the SEF intends to ensure equilibrium in the accounts of the country, the state, and the enterprises.

The withdrawal of excess money from circulation—by methods not yet determined—greater price-setting autonomy for the enterprises, and the sliding devaluation of the kwanza are other plans the SEF has for reorganizing Angola's economic and financial life, which the document's authors expect to be on the upswing sometime around 1990.

RPA in Brief

- Population: Approximately 8 million.
- GNP: \$4.1 billion (in 1985 dollars).
- Regular Armed Forces: 80,000.
- Quality of life index: 37.09 on a scale of 1 to 100 (based on three indicators: life expectancy, infant mortality, and degree of literacy).
- Number of refugees: 92,180.
- Main agricultural products: coffee, cotton, sisal, manioc, sugar, corn, palm oil, bananas, tobacco, cacao, and peanuts.
- Main imports: machinery, food products, raw materials, textiles, footwear, and consumer items.
- Main exports: petroleum (90 percent), diamonds, and coffee.
- Currency: kwanza.

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Hangar Completed at Seretse Khama Airport
34000236c TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
29 Oct 87 p 4

[Text] Botswana's dream of achieving self reliance in aircraft maintenance has been realised with the completion of a new hangar described as the finest in the SADCC region.

The Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) newsletter says the hangar, which includes an engineering workshop is situated in Sir Seretse Khama Airport in Gaborone and conforms to international standards.

The newsletter quotes BDC's transport manager Mr Mark Hopkins as saying that Air botswana's aircraft maintenance base which was contracted to Safair at Jan Smuts Airport in Johannesburg will now be transferred to Sir Seretse Khama Airport.

"All the steel for the finest aircraft maintenance support facility in the SADCC region was supplied by ZECCO, a Zimbabwean steel company," he said.

"With the engineering workshop now based in Gaborone, the long term training programme for apprentice mechanics and aircraft engineers can start. Training for 15 pilots is also about to begin," he added.

Construction for the just completed project started in March last year.

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Prolonged Drought Killing Cattle, Wildlife
34000236b Johannesburg THE STAR in English
25 Nov 87 p 5

[Text] Thousands of head of cattle and wildlife are dying of thirst in the north-west of Botswana as temperatures soar into the high 40s in an area caught in the grip of a 6-year drought.

Travellers on the road to Maun near the Okavango swamps report seeing the carcasses of cattle, wildebeeste and even buffalo beside the road, and it is believed that many thousands of animals are migrating into the swamps to find water.

A local tribal councillor in the Kareng area, Mr Boitshoko Segadimo, has reported that almost 15,000 head of cattle had died this month in his village alone.

In the wake of President Quett Masire this week declaring the country to be drought-stricken for the sixth successive year, Mr Segadimo has asked the government to assist by servicing boreholes in the area.

In Maun itself, the Thamatakane River leading out of the swamps has dried up completely, and an outbreak of typhoid has been reported.

The prolonged drought has caused many wild animals to leave their normal habitat, and elephants from the Tuli Block area are reported to be moving close to Francistown in their search for water.

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Sankara's Economic Heritage Likely To Be Reviewed by Successors

34190047 Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE
in French Dec 87 pp 30-32

[Article by Mamadou Alpha Barry: "What Legacy Has Sankara Left?"; first paragraph is introductory material]

[Text] Sankara's major upheaval of the Burkinabe economy included undeniable accomplishments. The "rectification" decreed by his successors opens an era of uncertainty.

Is it a simple pause in the quick rate of reforms or a return to the starting block after 4 years of upheaval in the Burkinabe economy? At least it is uncertainty which characterizes the situation created by the untimely death of President Thomas Sankara.

Today no one can say precisely what Captain Blaise Compaore, who succeeded him, means by "rectification," the new buzzword in Ouagadougou.

However, there is an almost irresistible temptation for the head of the People's Front to pause in the revolutionary process in order to try to conciliate certain important forces in Burkinabe society which had been frightened by Thomas Sankara's austerity measures. In addition to the release of the union members arrested last June and of political prisoners and the rehiring of teachers let go from public service in 1984, we can expect an easing of the hard-line policy advocated by Sankara. This policy had resulted in grumbling in various layers of the population, from upper level civil servants to dignitaries of former regimes, and including the political parties not in power, the unions and the traditional chiefs, who lost a lot of privileges under the late president.

The first moments of the "Democratic People's Revolution" established after the coup d'etat on 4 August 1983 were certainly marked by violence: assassination and putsch attempts, etc. Nevertheless, right from the first year, the captain instituted spectacular measures designed to modify the face of Burkinabe society and to change ideas and habits.

He started with the ideas and habits of the new dignitaries. Official limousines were sold at public auction and replaced by modest government cars. A surtax placed on luxury consumer goods made them prohibitively expensive. Thomas Sankara then attacked the high salaries of those holding upper level jobs in the civil service and the army, who received various bonuses and payments which could run as high as 30 percent of their income. These have been greatly reduced, if not eliminated.

Bitter Struggle Against Corruption

Unlike other richer African nations, in Burkina there is no upper class. This is why the 26,000 civil servants, as well as the self-employed workers in the urban areas and the shopkeepers, appear to be privileged in the eyes of the rural inhabitants, who make up at least 90 percent of the population. The austerity measures taken to bolster the National Solidarity Fund, which was designed to help victims of the drought in rural areas, have reached this lower class. But to combat the welfare mentality which is nurtured among the rural inhabitants by this food aid, it is now dispensed on the basis of participation in certain work of general interest.

The pursuit of all types of privileges was accompanied by a bitter struggle against corruption. For this, it was necessary to be severe. At the beginning of January 1984, the TPR's (People's Revolutionary Tribunals) were created. Open to the public and broadcast on national radio, the trials were held for 8 months, judging more than 100 people, including the major authority figures of previous regimes, accused of misappropriating public funds. These tribunals did not spare an ex-president, Colonel Saye Zerbo, who received 8 years imprisonment. It is estimated that almost 2.8 billion CFA francs were thereby collected during 1984, without counting expropriations and seized goods.

Contrary to all expectations, Thomas Sankara's eagerness to "moralize" the government bore fruit because today all observers agree that corruption has been practically eradicated in the Burkinabe administration.

Thomas Sankara did not hesitate to go against the traditional policy followed by his predecessors, which was to broaden the base of their administrations by increasing the number of civil servants. On the contrary, he conducted massive cutbacks within the administration, either by early retirement or by laying off excess workers. Almost 1,000 civil servants were thereby cut back, to which should be added the teachers laid off on 9 March 1984 because of a strike.

However, the reduction in salaries and benefits was somewhat compensated for by significant price drops in the private sector: rents, rates for medical visits and educational expenses were all reduced by over half. To round things out, the per capita tax, a survivor of the colonial era which weighed heavily on rural inhabitants, was abolished. The authoritarian decline in rents was undoubtedly not of a nature to encourage construction of housing. To defuse the real estate speculation which was burgeoning due to the rural exodus, Thomas Sankara began a program of subsidized housing in each of the country's 30 provinces.

With the nationalization of the land and the subsoil on 10 August 1984, land was recognized as belonging only to the state, which gave it to individuals to be used. Led by the CDR's (Committees for the Defense of the

Revolution), the people were invited to participate in building the residential areas. In Ouagadougou, SOCO-GIB, the state real estate agency, completed the "City of Year I" in Patte d'Oie, an unoccupied zone southeast of the city, for the first anniversary of the revolution. Three other rental areas were to follow. These efforts have certainly created a new dynamic, but they are far from resolving the housing crisis.

If year I of the revolution was the best one for reforms, there was one reform which towered over all the others, and that was the start-up of the PPD, the People's Development Plan, covering the period from October 1984 to December 1985. Twenty percent of this plan was financed by national sources, with the total 160 billion CFA francs of investments assigned to three categories: the "basic program," which was to provide the provinces with local hydraulics, roads and grain banks; the "support program," designed for national infrastructures; and the major development projects for improving hydroagriculture and mining.

First 5-Year Plan Domestic financing was based primarily on "human investment" and a special tax on the income of city dwellers.

At the end of the plan, it was estimated that about 80 percent of the goals were met. Thanks to the aid of WHO, almost 40 percent of children were vaccinated against three major endemic diseases (fever, measles, meningitis). The slogan "one village, one primary health clinic" was part of the ambitious goal of providing the 7,500 villages and urban areas of the country with clinics. With the help of the CDRs, nicknamed "development commandos," a literacy program was launched.

The "Sourou project," improvement of the fertile plain in the northwest in order to irrigate 41,000 hectares, was completed. The start-up in April 1985 of the "strategy of the three campaigns" (to discourage unauthorized cutting of wood, brushfires and the straying of animals) sensitized the people to the danger of turning land into desert.

But the PPD also hoped to create the conditions for a continued planning process and to set up the basis for the first 5-year plan, 1986-1990.

This plan, costing a total of 650 billion CFA francs (of which 85 percent, it must be pointed out, had to be provided by external aid), calls for annual growth of 3.1 percent and hopes to see more modernization in the traditional sector than accelerated development in the modern sector, as well as greater efficiency in the state sector. About 55 percent of the financing had already been acquired before Thomas Sankara's death. "That is a sign of the confidence of the providers of capital," Mr.

Guardia, head of the PNUD office in Ouagadougou, confided to us last April. "Everyone is convinced of the serious intent of the government," he continued.

If international aid continued to flow into Burkina despite the revolutionary orientation of Thomas Sankara's regime, it was because this charismatic leader reassured those providing the capital, primarily Westerners, about the good use of their contributions. In 1986 Ouagadougou received total aid of \$200 million (60 billion CFA francs), all sources combined.

Despite the vicissitudes of the revolution, Burkina recorded notable progress under Thomas Sankara. In 1985 the GDP (gross domestic product) grew 9.1 percent in real terms (compared to an annual decline of 0.4 percent in 1982-1984), thanks, it is true, to the good rainfall, but also to the carrying out of the PPD. The lowering of the state's lifestyle caused public expenditures to fall 1.8 percent in 1984. The increase in the budget, which was 98.5 billion CFA francs in 1987 (compared to 83.6 billion in 1986), can be explained by the beginning of the first portion of the 5-year plan. Although the budget remains unbalanced, "this deficit is not to be feared, because it is financing development projects and not sumptuous expenditures, like it was under the reactionary regimes," stated Adele Ouedraogo, minister of the budget.

The bottom line of the balance of payments is positive, which is rare for an African state, because of the amount of net transfers without reciprocal concessions (international aid and money sent by 2 million Burkinabe emigres). The relatively low external debt, about \$500 million, nonetheless is a heavy weight on public finances.

Agriculture, which is extensive, poorly mechanized and uses few farm inputs, is dominated by the small family plot providing a total grain production of 1.1 million tons per year, which results in a food deficit of some 160,000 tons, covered by imports and food aid. Primary products (cotton, peanuts, sesame and karite) and livestock still provide 80 percent of export receipts.

Burkinabe manufacturing industry today consists of 177 enterprises, of which 62 percent have a turnover of less than 100 million CFA francs. The new investment code, which was implemented in 1984, has not yet produced any effects, since Burkina's poor natural resources have attracted very little foreign capital. Industrial activity accounts for only 12 percent of the GDP, in two main sectors: agri-foodstuffs and textiles and leather.

Thomas Sankara's grand dream to build an independent national economy symbolized by the obligatory wearing of the "faso danfani," the outfit made from local textiles, or by the "rail battle," stopped after 33 kilometers because of a lack of railway material, is liable never to see the light of day. His death plunges the country into a new era of uncertainty.

10 Arrested for Alleged Antigovernment Activities
34000231b Monrovia THE MIRROR in English
18 Nov 87 p 1

[Article by Bill Jarkloh and T. Budu Kaisa: "Arrest in Nimba County?"]

[Text] Reports reaching THE MIRROR last night said that ten (10) persons have been arrested and detained by security personnel in Nimba County for what was described as "security reasons."

A reliable source told this paper that the citizens were arrested in Nimba County and brought down to Monrovia stripped down only to their briefs. The 10 persons were reportedly accused of engaging in "anti-government activities."

The source said that the citizens have been detained in Monrovia but could not say which particular prison or cell in which they were detained.

However, when asked to comment on what was meant by "antigovernment activities," the source declined to comment but indicated that it must have been a grave offense.

Nimba County Senator, Hilary Gbunblee disclosed to THE MIRROR that he had heard of similar stories but emphasized that it was through rumour mongering. He however declined to make further comments.

Nimba County Representative Abdul Kromah also expressed surprise when contacted but said that it was his first time of hearing the news.

THE MIRROR, however, in an attempt to verify the authenticity of the reports called the house of the Chief of Staff General Henry Dubar for comments last night but a female voice that came over the phone disclosed that General Dubar was out of the house.

When Defense Minister Allison was contacted through telephone, THE MIRROR learnt for the first time that he was in the bathroom but then 6 minutes later information came again that the minister had left the house about 4 hours before the call.

The news of the alleged arrest and detention of the Nimba citizens has come in the wake of the impending visit to Nimba County by President Samuel K. Doe.

The meeting is scheduled to take place in Sanniquelle City on 27 November 1987.

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Repentant Muslim Spokesman Denies Antigovernment Activities
34000232b Monrovia THE MIRROR in English
10 Nov 87 p 1

[Article by Christian Harris: "Let President Execute Us If...—Declares Tunis"]

[Text] What would be a religious catastrophe is likely to emerge in Grand Cape Mount County between members of the Repentant Muslims and another Muslim sect there.

This religious feud has resulted in an appeal to the president of Liberia to execute without court proceeding any member of the Repentant Muslims who are anti-government.

At a press conference over the weekend, the Imam of the Repentant Muslims Abdullah Amjad Tunis II disclosed that rumours were being spread against them that they are anti-government.

Imam Tunis also said that they have been accused of receiving support from Libya which resulted to the arrest and detention of 18 members of the Repentant Muslims and 12 were later released.

He said, presently six of their members are in detention in Cape Mount County and other are being sought for by security forces in the county.

Imam Tunis further pointed out that a military raid was carried out in Cape Mount a few weeks ago when security personnel operating under the influence of some Muslims residing there had alleged that a "coup was being planned by the Repentant Muslims to overthrow the government."

He then stressed that the Repentant Muslims have already written the minister of information informing him of the situation in the Cape Mount area.

Imam tunis said, "we are appealing to the president to investigate us, and if we are wrong, let him execute us without any court proceedings."

In like manner he added, "if we are cleared the same investigation should be meted out to them," he said.

Commenting on the purpose of the Repentant Muslims Imam Abdullah Amjad Tunis pointed out that the group was organized in February 1985 to discourage illicit sex, lying and to promote morality among the Muslims.

He said they are geared towards promoting national unity and peace and to also educate all Muslims about their role as a religious group instead of involving themselves in orders.

He also said, Repentant Muslims have groups in Cape Mount, Bassa, Nimba and Bong Counties totalling over 5,000 members.

/12232

Government Members Must Disassociate From Sect or Resign

34000232a Monrovia DAILY STAR in English
17 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] Two members of the National Muslims of Liberia employed with the Special Security Service (SSS) in the Executive Mansion have been ordered to either disassociate themselves with the organization or resign from the service.

Colonel Nathan Nelson, Director of the Special Security Service gave the mandate which stemmed from a complaint filed in his office by one Alhaji Mohammed of Grand Cape Mount County.

Alhaji Sheriff in his complaint informed Director Nelson that the two Repentant Muslims left for the Cape Mount County recently and engaged themselves in acts contrary to their oath of office.

Speaking to the DAILY STAR in Clara Town, the leader of the Repentant Muslims Iman Abdullah Tunnis said that the order for the two men, Captain Varney Sherman and Private Thomas Kiazolu, was contained in a letter written by Director Nelson.

In his letter dated 4 October 1987, Colonel Nelson said that investigation into the complaint made against Captain Sherman and Pvt Kiazolu by Alhaji Sheriff has been concluded by the board of investigators and appropriate recommendations made for the review of the SSS and necessary action.

He said in the letter, "For failing to obtain an excuse and defecting to Grand Cape Mount County for the purpose of joining your fellow Repentant Muslims for prayer, you have grossly omitted an important portion of our rules and regulations (which is) Absent Without Leave (AWOL).

Director Nelson's letter further said, "Meanwhile considering the fact that you did not go there for prayer, but have engaged yourselves in ordering the arrest and detention of the leader of the non-Repentant Muslims has led us to conclude that you be strongly warned to either disassociate yourselves from this organization or we shall be left with no other alternative but to ask you to resign."

In view of this the letter read, "You and your collaborators are liable to restore and refund to Alhaji M. Sheriff the rings, driver's license, and rice farm that were reported missing and/or destroyed as a result of the illegal act taken by you against these individuals, the letter concluded.

/12232

Nimba Citizens Protest Election Results

34000240b Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English
24 Nov 87 p 7

[Text] Some citizens of Buu-Yao Chiefdom in Nimba County have expressed concern over the failure of the Election Commission (ECOM) to certificate Mr Jesse Zoyah as paramount chief of the Chiefdom during the recent certification ceremony of chiefs who won the last chieftaincy elections.

The citizens, who walked into the offices of this paper yesterday, claimed that during the announcement of the election results, Mr Zoyah was declared winner, but to their utter surprise when Dr Harry Nayou of ECOM went to certificate chiefs, defeated candidate Mamadee Sandoo was announced winner, yet he was not certified. They quoted Dr Nayou as saying that "there is a fire behind this certificate."

Meanwhile, the citizens, through their spokesman, Mr S. Keageezaten Segrean, have appealed for the timely intervention of the president, noting that if this is not corrected, it may bring confusion between the Gio and Mandigoes of the area.

They expressed optimism that with the intervention of the President, the matter would be settled and subsequently Zoyah would be certificated.

Dr Nayou could not be reached yesterday for comments.

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Chiefdom Legislators Protest Primary Results

34000241a Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English
2 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] Partisans of the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) in Wyemonweh and Clemonweh Chiefdoms, Maryland County, have appealed to the national executives of the party to declare the results of the recent primary election to elect the party's candidate for the ensuing by-election null and void.

Giving reasons for their protest, the partisans said the primary was unfair and characterized by fraud, thus enabling Major G. Wamleh Elliott to emerge as NDPL candidate for the forthcoming by-election scheduled for this month.

In their protest to the NDPL Acting National Chairman, Mrs Miatta Sherman, the partisans said it has been generally agreed by the two Grebo groups that one of the Maryland Legislators should come from each of the tribes. They said since Senator Hodo Manston hailed from the Clemonweh tribe it was agreed that the successor of the late Christian Baker should come from the Nyemonweh tribe. Efforts to contact the nDPL Chairman up to press time last night proved futile.

The protest letter, copy of which was obtained by this paper, informed Ms Sherman that her announcement of Major G. Wamleh Elliott as the party's nominee, infringes on the above agreement in that Mr Elliott and Sen Manston are of the same tribe.

A spokesman for the partisans, Mr Joseph Gbede Dennis, who was on the delegation that presented the protest, told the DAILY OBSERVER that majority of the partisans supported the candidacy of Mrs Helena A. Acolatse, by because of the unfair way the election was handled her name was not announced as winner.

The protest, signed by some prominent NDPL partisans in Maryland, said all the chiefs and partisans in the area supported the candidacy of Mrs Acolatse, but the timing of the caucus (elections) confused them. The partisans said that clerks selected by NDPL officials in Harper are of the same ethnic group with Elliott and thus misrepresented their votes on the ballots.

The voters, many of whom could not read and write, said when they told the clerks to write Helena A. Acolatse, they (clerks) wrote G. Wamleh Elliott instead, noting that because the election was held in the night under candle light, they could not see what the clerks were doing.

In view of all the above, the partisans told the chairman: "We respectfully request that the matter be reconsidered and that Mrs Helena Allison Acolase, the next runner-up, be nominated in view of the tribal schism."

Copy of the protest was also sent to the Elections Commission. When contacted, ECOM chairman, Isaac Randolph, acknowledged receipt of the protest, but could not comment because the matter was a "party issue."

Efforts to get the position of NDP's Acting Chairman, Ms. Miatta Sherman, proved futile as she was said to be in a meeting.

The vacancy was created by the death of representative Christian Baker of Maryland.

/12232

Saniquellie Conference Analyzed
34000240a Monrovia FOOTPRINTS TODAY in English 2 Dec 87 p 5

[Article by Andrew Robinson: "The Sanniquellie Peace Mission: Did It Succeed?"]

[Text] If those who have ascended to the echelons of high public life only know their limit of power, indeed there would be little clash of interest and more devotion to the need for human understanding.

But as public officials would ignore the necessity of shielding themselves from the temptation of greed and selfishness, precious time will always be spent to settle unnecessary quarrel in the conduct of human interaction.

The recent Sanniquellie peace conference is a classic case in point. Was there an actual need for such peace conference? In other words, had there been any overt clash or conflict existing between the two ethnic stocks (Nimba-Gedeh) that prompted the need for such peace talks?

It can be recalled immediately a month after the controversial general elections of 1985, a striking wave of invasion led and commanded by former Commanding General Thomas G. Quiwonkpa, almost brought down the existing power structure of the governments of the PRC-INA.

General Quiwonkpa, during the launching of his invasion, was heard as justifying that he had come to give his people self respect and a fair election, rights which he observed, had been stolen and subsequently abused by the then INA's administration.

The Quiwonkpa invasion and subsequent explanation won immediate sympathy and Automatic following. As was heard in the streets of Monrovia as citizens awaited the advent of the deliverer: "We want Jesus, we want Jesus."

By 2:00pm the tide had changed, and the "Patriotic Forces" led by the former commanding general were overpowered and subdued by forces loyal to the then INA President, Dr Doe.

The capture Quiwonkpa was immediately saddened by a temporary standstill and an unbelievable spell—a spell which had refused to leave the hearts of the people as they too refused to accept the reality that Gen Quiwonkpa had fallen.

During the intermittent period between the coming and falling of the former commanding general, something happened: undercover intertribal warfare was going on between the Gio and Krahn. Troops loyal to Dr Doe were immediately dispatched to Gio quarters around Monrovia and some were deplored in Nimba.

It remains unknown today how many number of lives were lost as a result of this intertribal clash. But one thing is certain: a lot of Gio countrymen became strangers to their county and country immediately after that incident. Many, including the mother of the former commanding general, fled to neighboring Ivory Coast for fear of their lives.

In other areas of national activities for instance, employment and political affiliations, the Gio were marked, spotted out and their freedom of movements sanctioned. And yet in the face of all these, government disregarded them while its policy of national reconciliation was carried out under the banner of honesty and openness.

This situation could not continue to remain hidden as the people of Nimba kept complaining about the continuous ill-treatment done to their right of citizenship.

The injustices actually came to the open during the presentation of resolution to President Doe. Of all the statements of support and loyalty advanced by the 13 counties to the national government, the resolution from Nimba made sense and actually reflected the true meaning of the actual definition of resolution.

During that presentation, one could distinguish between the explosion of basic hidden issues of our time as opposed to mere flattery advanced by sycophants, hope of winning the president's favor.

The Nimba presentation, in other words, unearth the secrecy of government's pandora box, urged it to abandon such conduct and adopt an attitude that will make all Nimba citizens feel at ease in their own county and country.

The Nimba resolution immediately prompted a decision and subsequently led to the action by the president to visit Nimba to look into the possibility of settling any dispute (squabble) that did occur during the 12 November incident.

If the statement of resolution was condemned on the one hand, indeed it brought its good side: The (Nimba-Gedeh) clash brought some peace between the two ethnic groups.

However, many skeptics are wondering to what extent this peace mission will go. Such suspicion is justified against the background that the remains of the 12 November victims will indeed find it difficult to accept the notion of peace from the face value.

"How do you reconcile with peace in the case," noted a victim of the 12 November incident, "when those who we depended on for bread were slaughtered without mercy?"

He continued: "We desire no war with those in power nor with any tribal element, but equally so, our conscience will question us daily if we unwillingly submit to those who deliberately slaughtered our people."

The Sanniquellie peace mission may bring a temporary success perhaps because of the demand which the present status quo imposes. Whether this peace mission became a success, only a matter of time can determine it.

Yet we must always remember the simple reality of human tendency of vengeance. This tendency can indeed only be subdued, but will definitely submerge during the event of favorable circumstances.

We must not hide the other side of the truth.

/12232

Lebanese Community Special Fund Supports Green Revolution

34000231a Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English
20 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] The Lebanese Community in Liberia has decided to forego any celebrations here in observance of their nation's 44th anniversary and use the amount budgeted for the celebration to set up a "Special Fund to support the Green Revolution."

The announcement was made here yesterday in a letter from the Embassy of Lebanon signed by Ambassador Michel Bitar. Lebanon's anniversary is 22 November.

The letter observed that the "44th anniversary of Lebanon comes at a time when our families and brethren at home continue to suffer extreme hardships, heightened this year by unprecedented economic crisis that might prove to be more devastating than the 12 years of civil strife.

"For this reason, the occasion hardly calls for celebration. The embassy is not holding its diplomatic reception and the World Lebanese Cultural Union has communicated to me, through its chairman, Abbas Fawaz, that it has decided to forego its annual ball and to consecrate the funds budgeted for the purpose towards starting a Special Fund that is set up forthright to support the Green Revolution."

/12232

3 To Study Planning in Israel

34000232c Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English
11 Nov 87 p 3

[Text] Messrs Sleyon Wesseh and Mohammed Sheriff, both of the Ministry of Agriculture, and Mr Francis Gomoyan of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs, are in Israel to participate in a 2 and 1/2 month international course on "Planning of Micro-regions and New Settlement Areas."

This course is the last course for the year 1987, according to the Training Program of the Division of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jerusalem, Israel. Thirty different courses in the areas of Agriculture and

Environmental Management, Rural Development and Regional Planning, Labour and Cooperative Studies as well as Health Care and Community and Educational development have been offered.

Seventy Liberians have been beneficiaries of these courses in 1987.

Meanwhile, the training program for the year 1988 has already been published.

The government of the State of Israel, through its embassy in Monrovia, will continue its technical assistance and support to Liberia in 1988 and in the years ahead, said an Israeli Embassy release.

/12232

Nimba Team Attends FRG-Sponsored Planning Workshop

34000241c Monrovia THE MIRROR in English
2 Dec 87 p 8

[Text] A three-man team to the Planning and Implementation of Integrated Rural Development workshop in Mazwingo, Zimbabwe returned home over the weekend.

The team headed by Deputy Agricultural Minister for Planning and Development, James W. Mehn, also including Dr Fred V. Goericke, Coordinator, Nimba County Rural Development Project (INCRDP) and Mr Peter K Mah, NCRDP Senior Self-Help Promotion and Marketing Officer.

The workshop sponsored by the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTC), was aimed at reviewing experiences with projects within which the German Government is associated so as to consider and revise the guiding principles in Regional Rural Development.

According to the head of the Liberian delegation, Mr Mehn, participants at the workshop whom came from all major anglo-phone countries of sub-Saharan Africa, discussed among other things, poverty orientation, dealing with policy of giving assistance to people in the rural areas whom are considered the rural poor.

He said that they also deliberated on self-help participation of the people who are the beneficiary of the assistance to be part and parcel of the activities of the projects.

Minister Mehn further disclosed that the meeting discussed the sustainability and containability and continuity of the projects after the phasing out of the German assistance.

Minister Mehn who spoke yesterday shortly after his arrival from Zimbabwe, described the workshop as 'very fruitful.'

He however said that certain difficulties were pointed out focusing on the sustainability of those projects.

These problems Minister Mehn outlined were training of the management staff to adequately perform the task of running the projects.

/12232

Professor Claims Military Activities Main Cause of Deforestation

34000241b Monrovia THE MIRROR in English
23 Nov 87 p 1

[Article by T. Budu Kaisa: "Professor Accuses Ministers"]

[Text] The professor of Forest Economics at the University of Liberia, Dr F. Kranwre Sio, has accused two government ministers of misleading the Liberian people that logging activities is the main cause of deforestation in Liberia.

The minister of information, culture and tourism, J. Emmanuel Z. Bowier and the minister of agriculture, S. Gblorzu Toweh were challenged to come up with concrete facts stating that logging companies under the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) are the causes of the destruction of the Liberian forest.

Dr Sio Threw the challenge last Saturday, when he delivered a 29-page booklet on the "Effects of Logging and Shifting Cultivation on forest Ecosystem" at a 2-day workshop sponsored by the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) at the Liberia Chamber of Commerce Building on Capitol Hill in Monrovia.

Dr Sio said he wonders why the two ministers made such damaging allegation against the FDA without first conducting a basic research to substantiate their claim.

He said, "Some of these same ministers who accused the FDA are not cultivating over 1,000 acres of land not realizing that they are contributing to the destruction of our forest."

He claimed that some of main causes of deforestation in Liberia are military activities, such as biological warfare, shifting cultivation, charcoal production, mining, clearance for agriculture, grazing and firewood gathering, while logging operation is the least among other uncontrollable economic development.

He indicated that shifting cultivation changes the forest climate, disturbs the nutrient level in the soil and transforms the whole environment, making it difficult to regain its original structure.

He said although logging has negative effects on forest ecosystem and can be worse if it is not proceeded by proper planning, no nation with mature natural forests and strong desire for foreign exchange will permit the forest to rot because of the negative effects logging has on environment.

/12232

Israel Planning Agricultural Development Project in Zambezia
34000221c London AFRICA ANALYSIS in English
27 Nov 87 p 6

[Text] Tel Aviv—Mozambique is to permit Israel to carry out a \$1m agricultural project in Zambezia Province. It involves conversion of an abandoned cotton plantation into a food crop-producing farm. President Joaquim Chissano said some weeks ago that Mozambique might find some way, short of diplomatic relations, to accommodate Israel.

Israel's assurances that it no longer aids the MNR rebels, and the sanctions it has announced against South Africa, have created new conditions. More to the point, Mozambique hopes Israel will influence Pretoria to end South African support for the MNR. Mozambique also hopes that its acceptance of the Israeli project will stiffen the resistance of Israel's many supporters in Washington to increasingly strident calls for the right for the U.S. to aid the MNR.

Secret contacts between Mozambique and Israel began 2 years ago with an Israeli delegation to Maputo. A second delegation visited Mozambique around mid-September and Chissano later met Israeli party officials in Stockholm.

Israeli and Mozambican officials also met in Washington during Chissano's recent visit there. (Some of the meetings included former Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche).

Enthusiastic Israeli official described the Zambezia project as the first step on the road to full diplomatic relations with Mozambique. But these Chissano has explicitly ruled out.

Frelimo received training from Israel until 1967, then broke the connections because it objected to Israel's policies. Mozambique continues to call for the withdrawal of Israel from the territories it occupies and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Even so, Mozambique's accommodation clearly represents a breakthrough for Israel. An added bonus is that Chissano's kind words will legitimise Israel's measures against South Africa (a pledge to sign no new military contracts, an assortment of bans on athletic, cultural and ministerial exchanges, along with some minor economics restrictions from which exemption can be obtained).

But Israel has now engaged the U.S. State Department in a public quarrel over who will pay for the Zambezia project. Israeli officials say they cannot find the necessary funds themselves, and claim that the State Department fears a rightwing assault if it gives additional aid to Mozambique.

The Israelis also admit that the State Department is concerned about the lack of security in the bandit-ridden area.

Israel may get the \$1m from liberal supporters in the U.S. who have already been raising funds to finance training courses in Israel for black South Africans, or it might borrow against a special U.S. aid programme—already committed for the current year—which funds Israeli projects in countries where Israel is trying to improve its diplomatic standing.

In this case, however, it appears that direct U.S. Administration sponsorship is important to Israel—perhaps to placate South Africa.

/12232

Babangida Reassures Burkina, Togo of Good Relations

34000196b Lagos DAILY TIMES in English
13 Nov 87 pp 1-2

[Text] Relations between Nigeria and Burkina Faso will not be adversely affected by a change of government in Burkina Faso, President Ibrahim Babangida said in Lagos yesterday.

He made the statement after he had listened to a speech by the leader of Burkinabe delegation to Dodan Barracks, Captain Ye Bognessan Arsene.

The president asked the delegation to convey to Captain Blaise Compaore, Nigeria's understanding of the situation which led to the change of government in that country assuring that Nigeria would continue to assist Burkina Faso in whatever way it could.

General Babangida stated that Nigeria would continue to explore avenues of bilateral cooperation with Burkina Faso and fulfil all her commitments to the country.

"Those are the facts of Life," General Babangida said adding that what was important was that the national interest should be supreme consideration at all times.

The delegation before departing said that President Babangida's advice as a respected leader, elder and chairman of ECOWAS, on how to normalise the situation in Burkina Faso was among the issues that brought them.

Earlier the delegation led by the secretary-general of the "Committees of the Defense of Revolution in Burkina Faso," Captain Ye Bognessan Arsene had listed the issues that led to the change of government.

"Internal contradictions among leaders of the revolution, absence of debate in national organs of government set up after the revolution unilateral governmental decisions by Sankara and rejection of governmental structure he (Sankara) created."

The delegation to President Babangida that Captain Sankara alienated his colleagues in the armed forces by bypassing established lines of command in an effort to build up his own following adding that his death was "neither wanted nor planned."

President Ibrahim Babangida received three special messages from the Togolese leader, General Gnassingbe leader, General Gnassingbe Eyadema at Dodan Barracks yesterday.

The messages were delivered by the Togolese Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Mr Yaori Adodo.

The messages include a request by President Eyadema for Nigeria's assistance towards the development of the United Nations Centre for disarmament set up in Lome last year.

President Babangida assured the minister that Nigeria would respond favourably to the request and that he would study the other issues raised in the messages and send a personal reply to General Eyadema.

/12232

Akinyemi Denies Shift in Support of Angola's MPLA

34000229 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
25 Nov 87 p 13

[Text] Nigeria moved rapidly on yesterday to quell speculation that it had changed its Angolan policy.

Foreign Minister Bolaji Akinyemi denied suggestions, arising from a statement he made on Monday night, that Lagos was rethinking its total support for the MPLA.

"Nothing we have said marks a shift in policy," Mr Akinyemi said in a telephone interview which he originated.

He denied that his earlier statement, saying that Nigeria was willing to play a mediatory role in the Angolan war if all parties requested it implied any recognition of Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels.

"There are refined ways of telling Savimbi to go to hell," he said.

Mr Akinyemi was particularly concerned by a BBC report yesterday which interpreted the statement as a departure from earlier policy which would alarm Luanda.

Throughout the last 12 years of Angolan civil war, Nigerian governments have professed unflinching support for the MPLA and dismissed Unita as creatures of Pretoria.

Mr Akinyemi recalled Nigeria's role in 1975 and its unwavering diplomatic, material and political support for the Angolan government.

"The implication is that we are not about to ditch the MPLA," Mr Akinyemi said.

He added that by making any Nigerian mediation effort contingent on the request of all parties "we have effectively given the MPLA a veto."

Monday's statement was in response to a renewed appeal from Unita to Nigeria, Kenya and other African states to help bring about a peaceful solution to the war.

The speculation of a switch in Nigerian policy may have been fed by the reference in the statement to "parties," open to interpretation that Lagos acknowledged Dr Savimbi's right to sit at a negotiating table with the Angolan President.

/12232

Registration Exercise Reveals Flaws in Election System

34000196a Lagos DAILY TIMES in English
11 Nov 87 p 26

[Article by Daniel Uche: "Checking the Activities of Banned Politicians"]

[Text] The voter's registration exercise which started on 12 October and ended on 1 November marked another milestone on our onward march to civil rule. During the exercise myriad of problems came up. While few were solved many were unsolved and some remained unsolvable. It is on the basis of these problems that political analysts believed that the just-concluded exercise served as a litmus test on the part of the National Electoral Commission (NEC) to conduct a free and fair election and unless experts believe, NEC could provide panaceas to some of those thorny problems, our march to civil rule in 1992 might turn out to be a vivid reminiscence of the 1979 and 1983 order.

The activities of banned politicians towards the just-concluded registration exercise and the helplessness of NEC in dealing with them, will remain a spectre that will keep on hurting this nation for a very long time. This is because most of them having been excluded from the return to civil rule are hell-bent in sabotaging whatever efforts NEC is making towards conducting a free and fair elections and unless their activities are checked, the whole nation might be overwhelmed by their clandestine activities. The chairman of NEC, Professor Eme Awa, had this in mind when he accused banned politicians of interfering in the on-going registration of voters. The commissioner said that these politicians assisted underaged children in registering thereby creating scarcity of voters' cards. Besides, the chairman alleged that some of these politicians had bribed certain registration offices so that they would use their offices to create an artificial scarcity of cards. All the government need to do to check the clandestine activities of these banned politicians according to Professor I.O. Agbede, of the Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, is for them to enact a decree making it an offence for any banned politician to either overtly or covertly influence the outcome of any election adding that most of them want to sponsor candidates with the hope that if such a candidate wins, they could then sponsor a law revoking the decree banning them from participating in elections.

Also, the relationship between NEC and state governors during the last exercise was not clear as both parties issued conflicting instructions towards the registration

exercise. When the governor of Anambra State, Group Captain Emeka Omeruah, said that presentation of voters' cards should be a pre-requisite for the payment of salaries in the state civil service, the chairman of NEC reacted by saying that social mobilisation is not synonymous with force adding that persuasion should be the key-word and that NEC has sent telex messages to all states of the federation to ensure compliance with the instruction. But in spite of this, state governors in Imo, Ondo, Plateau and Bauchi went to the air and insisted that possession of voters' cards must remain a prerequisite for the payment of salaries. According to Professor Alaba Ogunsanwo, of the Department of Political Science, University of Lagos, the state governors decided to use coercion on the people because they are military men where force is a way of life. He believed that both parties are not at variance as such because they are pursuing the same goal which is a call for mass registration of all eligible voters. Rather, the only source of difference between both parties is the method of achieving this.

The issue of women in Purdah should be resolved once and for all. NEC decided that in women in Purdah have to go to the polling stations to cast their votes on election and they are to register like other voters at official registration centres. Also they have to go in person in order to be registered for the forthcoming local government elections. Whether this directive violates Moslem injunctions or not, reactions from Moslem communities toward it was very adverse and it might have negative effects toward, conducting a free and fair elections. Moslem scholars intervened in this regard, however, believed that there is nothing wrong for women in Purdah to register and vote provided in the course of their exercising their civil responsibility they do not participate in un-Islamic activities.

The recurrent decimal in Nigerian politics reared its head again in the just concluded exercise. This is the issue of intercommunal conflicts. The Ife-Modakeke feud, the Urhoboh/Itsekiri Tango and the ethnic imbroglio in Kaduna State, these three questions have the potentials of exploding anytime to the extent of disrupting voting exercise in their areas of influence. "All the government ought to do to diffuse tension in these areas, according to a socialist at Unilag, Tom Obinyan, is for them to organise a special security arrangement that would monitor the activities of these various communities that are at variance with each other.

Also, there were reported cases of double registration all over the federation. In fact, the question of double registration is a very serious issue because many eligible voters were not allowed to register in the first instance. In spite of NEC's claim that 68 million voters' cards were released, complaints of lack of materials abound.

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Babangida Addresses Traditional Rulers, Scores Religious Intolerance

34000228c Lagos DAILY TIMES in English
17 Nov 87 pp 1, 12

[Article by Idahosa Asowata: "We Won't Take Any Affront"]

[Excerpts] No religious leader or social organisation will be allowed to challenge the government in its area of responsibility, President Ibrahim Babangida warned yesterday.

Traditional rulers should therefore make deliberate efforts at dissuading their subject from religious intolerance, President Ibrahim Babangida charged in Abuja yesterday.

He said religious intolerance was against the tenets of Christianity, Islam or any religion for that matter.

President Babangida who was addressing traditional rulers when they converged for a 1-day meeting at the International Conference Centre, Abuja, said, "I want to believe that those whose utterances and actions tend to undermine the nation are either ignorant of religious tenets or are acting mischievously. Both explanations may even be possible."

He told them, "we should now address ourselves to the fundamental combination of values which constitute our societal chains such as respect for constituted authority, patience, tolerance, kindness and forgiveness.

"The government," the president declared "is the ultimate custodian of whatever is accepted to be the national interest and the public," adding "Since our is not a theocratic state, it had become imperative on constituted authority to abide by our constitutional injunctions which enjoin us not to adopt any religion for the state."

He said it was the responsibility of traditional rulers to educate and protect their people's interest saying that the struggle that must engage our attention is not between one religion and another but between a religious life and the general side to religious bigotry, mischief, crime and violence."

The president said that there was considerable ignorance on the part of the people in matters relating to their professed religions as it relate to patience, peace, tolerance and co-existence adding that it our duty to remove the ignorance to promote love and respect for constituted authority.

He reaffirmed that no religious leader or social organisation would be allowed to challenge the government in its own area of responsibility.

/12232

Planes Suspected of Importing Contraband Products Seized

34000228b Lagos DAILY TIMES in English
14 Nov 87 pp 1, 8

[Text] Two aircraft which brought assorted contraband from and Britain were yesterday impounded at the NAHCO shed of the Murtala Muhammed Airport by the special military task force drafted to the airport last Tuesday to combat smuggling.

The aircraft are a Nigeria Airways Boeing 707 chartered by GAS Airline and a DC-8 belonging to the Flash Airline.

The goods comprised of assorted jewels gaming machines, vegetable oil, foot wears and textile worth millions of naira.

A member of the Special Military Task Force, Major Abubakar Yahayo, who spoke with newsmen said that the aircraft which were supposed to land at the Port Harcourt Airport were diverted to land in Lagos as a result of bad weather.

He said the task force had not made any arrest because no one had come forward to claim the goods, but assured the public that efforts would be made to arrest the owners.

According to him, most of the goods which were meant for delivery in Port Harcourt and Owerri had fictitious names and addresses written on them.

He said the task force will find a convenient place to put the goods for adequate safety measures.

Contacted yesterday on the fate of the two impounded aircraft, Transport and Aviation Minister, Major-General Jerry Useni, said the law would take care of it.

"The law of the land clearly spells out the penalty, it is there to take care of it."

/12232

Third Phase of Escravos-Warri Pipeline Project Launched

34000196c Lagos DAILY TIMES in English
11 Nov 87 p 3

[Article by Raheem Mohammed: "Oil Pipeline Project Takes Off This Month"]

[text] Construction work on the third phase of the Escravos-Warri pipeline project is expected to start this month.

This follows the contract agreement signed between the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and the two contracting firms Delattre Bezons of France and Soimi Construzione of Italy.

The project estimated at about N172 million would be funded from NNPC's resources.

Reports by the UBA BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DIGEST for October explained that the third phase would involve the construction of vast additional storage facilities for crude oil and products at Escravos terminal and at Warri with daily production of 125,000 barrels.

It will also cover Kaduna refineries where processing capacity has been raised to 110,000 barrels a day.

The scheme according to the digest will also include two 33,000 tonnes gas oil tanks, two 26,000 tonnes fuel oil tanks, two 26,000 tonnes gasoline tanks, two 11,600 tonnes and one 10,000 tonnes heavy naphta tanks.

According to the report, site preparation work by NNPC was completed at Escravos in 1985 and at Warri at the end of 1986.

/12232

Shipping Activities for First Half of 1987 Decline

34000237b Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 16 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] Shipping activities during the first half of 1987 declined further due to the continued economic depression, the CBN half-yearly report for 1987 has confirmed.

There was a drop in the tonnage of goods carried by ships in and out of our ports.

The number of ships calling at these ports fell by 39.5 percent as against 24.8 percent during the same period last year.

According to the figures, 666 ships with a net registered tonnage of 3.4 million called at Nigerian ports during the period under review.

Decline

During the same period 666 ships with a net registered tonnage of 3.87 million, representing a 40.2 percent drop over last year's level, sailed out of the ports.

Total non-oil shipment during the period stood at 2.99 million, representing a fall of 31.4 percent over the figure for the corresponding period last year.

Non-oil exports fell further by 26.2 percent as against 14.4 percent in the same period last year, indicating that the export drive strategy did not yield expected result during the period.

/12232

Petroleum Revenues for First Half of 1987 Up

34000228a Lagos SUNDAY TIMES in English
15 Nov 87 p 6

[Article by M. Chukelu: "Arithmetic of Petroleum Revenue"]

[Text] There has lately been a persistent stir of shocking incredulity in the country following a recent statement by the Minister of Finance, Dr Chu S.P. Okongwu, to the effect that actual revenue from Petroleum exports in the first 6 months of 1987 was less than in the corresponding period last year.

The underlying reason for this public disquiet stems from the well established fact that the price level of crude oil so far exported this year has been significantly higher than was the case in 1986.

In statistical terms, the average world market price of nigerian crude oil in the first 6 months of 1986, based on monthly sales figures supplied by the NNPC was (US)\$14.1615 per barrel. By comparison, the average export sales price for the corresponding period this ear rose noticeably to \$18.4743 per barrel.

In this connection, it becomes essential for details to be made public regarding the comparative quantity of sale as between the relevant period of 1986 and this year. If there happened to be a current production shortfall, was the ensuing gap wide enough to justify a serious reduction in oil earnings for the first half of 1987 as announced by Dr Okongwu?

Granted that the finance minister's terrifying calculations were correct, the public would then be entitled to be informed why the administration should have allowed a situation of fiscal regress to sour the people's rightful expectations for provable economic advance in the nation's earning capacity from crude oil in view of the higher prices being paid for the liquid gold this year as compared to 1986.

But then, President Ibrahim Babangida has earned wide public admiration for his uncompromising commitment to the economic resurgence of the country, and therefore could not at the same time be expected to tolerate an undignified retreat from our forward export earnings position.

So, has there really been a decline this year in petroleum export income as pronounced by the finance minister? To find out, I visited the national headquarters of the NNPC in Lagos. And in answer to questions, the following facts became evident.

During the period, January to June 1986, a total of 222,961,500 barrels of crude oil was exported at an average price of US\$14.1615. Net revenue realised from sale amounted to (U.S.)\$3,156,369,592.

During the corresponding period, January to June 1987, a total of 186,611,000 barrels of crude petroleum of all grades of oil was exported at an average price of \$18.4743 per barrel.

This netted a total revenue of \$3,447,507,597. A table showing the breakdown in monthly exports and the average prices per barrel for the periods under consideration are set forth hereunder.

A comparative study of total revenue from oil exports during the corresponding periods for 1986 and 1987 would show that despite the lower quantity of sales in the first half of 1987, the income derived therefrom was found to total more than for the corresponding period in 1986, to the amount of \$291,138,000.

In view of these figures the public can see that there is no cause for alarm about any possible deficiency or questionable dereliction in the marketing and sales machinery of the nation's crude oil. On the contrary, we have been making steady gains in petroleum earnings in the past couple of lean years.

So how did the minister of finance come to the awesome conclusion that Nigeria's total export earnings for the first half of this year were less than in the corresponding period of 1986.

The above figures as provided by the NNPC have not only corrected the minister's arithmetic but also reassured the anxious public about the nation's unflagging resolve in the task of achieving permanent economic recovery through the sound management of all our resources of which petroleum is currently a prime and dominant component.

Knowledgeable sources at NNPC headquarters in Lagos have attributed the 1986 oil crash to four main causes: the first being the structural imbalance in the supply and demand for oil in the world market.

The ugly situation was accentuated by an increase in oil supply from non-OPEC countries aimed at capturing a greater proportion of the world market. In so doing, these countries pursued a subversive pricing policy to the detriment of OPEC, and thus precipitated the disastrous crash.

The market having been flooded, the oil-purchasing countries embarked upon a massive stockpile resulting in a sharp decline in world market demand for crude petroleum.

In view of the oil glut, OPEC countries found themselves unable to agree on production limits and price levels. Inevitably, they decided to pursue a policy of grabbing whatever fair share they could get out of the flooded market.

Faced with this frightening deterioration worldwide, Nigeria was compelled to give incentives to oil producing companies in the territory so that they could, through their international network dispose of the surplus oil which the NNPC could not market directly. The new result for 1986 was an abnormally high quantity of sale at a terribly low price level per barrel.

This devastating oil glut in the world market provided a salutary lesson for both OPEC and non-OPEC countries.

By December 1986, OPEC decided on a production ceiling for 1987. Non-OPEC countries soon realised that in order to survive, they had no alternative but to comply with the OPEC quota system on the basis of mutual cooperation between both sides.

No wonder therefore that oil prices have risen substantially this year over and above the near-fatal slump evident in 1986. With the end of 1987 in sight, this higher and more profitable price level for crude petroleum has maintained its stability uninterrupted.

An inner source in the NNPC hierarchy explained that oil price stability this year might not have been possible but for the very wise and understanding pilotage of OPEC by Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman, Nigeria's minister of Petroleum resources.

The NNPC official who is often in the minister's entourage at OPEC meetings, disclosed that "in terms of agreeable human approach and the sympathetic appreciation of other people's points of view, the four-term president of the international petroleum organisation is a class by himself, profoundly respected by both OPEC and non-OPEC countries."

The official added that over the years, Nigeria had always exhibited an exemplary sense of discipline expected of a great country by keeping within the limits of the OPEC quota system and price ceiling. And with our own eminent son on the OPEC saddle, Nigeria was obliged by consideration of the nation's very honour to exert maximum effort at this time in the task of pegging our oil production to the agreed quota level.

Besides, he said, President Ibrahim Babangida, was known to favour the maintenance of planned and substantial reserves of oil in the country, so that future generations might also "benefit from the plenteous resources with which kindly nature has endowed the nation."

Many a head of state, blessed with such immense resources might have opted to over-produce for export in order to increase foreign exchange earnings that could be used to solve or even resolve the country's massive economic problems, if only to ensure the approbation of history for his regime.

But not so for our President, who prefers to confine the nation's petroleum production within the compass and stipulations of SAP so that the sacrifices of today's citizens may lead to well being and prosperity of generations unborn.

/12232

Value of Oil, Nonoil Exports Up

34000237c Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 16 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] The value of exports stood at N12.35 billion at the first 6 months of this year.

The high figure was attributed to improvement in the average level of oil prices reinforced by the depreciation of the naira exchange rate.

Half-year economic report by Central Bank explained that despite a sharp decline of 71 percent in volume, the oil exports increased from N4.105 billion to N11.886 billion during the corresponding.

While prices improved from 240.7 million barrels during the first half of 1986 to 172.6 million barrels in 6 months of this year.

Non-oil export also increased by 205.1 percent from N152 million to N463.8 million during the same period.

And compared to imports level, N11.073 billion was spent on import. Capital goods and raw materials accounted for N7.219 billion. However the balance of payment position showed a drastic fall despite the surplus of revenue on export and import level.

As against the \$1.296 billion as external reserve as at the end of December last year, the figure for June 1987 was a far distance at \$791.4 million a fall of over \$400m (N1.6 billion). The fall is traced to deficit in services and income which stood at N1.292 billion while oil sector deficit recorded N340 million. The report explained that the increased level of outflow were payments for interest on external loans which increased by 83 percent to N857 million at the end of June 1987.

/12232

Villagers Sell Locusts as Delicacies

34000237a Lagos DAILY TIMES in English
14 Nov 87 pp 1, 8

[Text] Locusts, which have done considerable damage to farm crops in Bauchi, Borno, Kaduna, Katsina and Sokoto States are now being hunted as delicacies and for sale.

Inhabitants of areas such as Daura, Katsina and Jibia all in Katsina State irked by the menace of the locusts, decided to hunt the pests on a daily basis.

Investigations in these areas showed that a "Mudu" of dry locusts cost between N1 and N2.

Villagers are reported to have made locust-hunting a big game after they were left with little or no food after this year's locust invasion on their farms.

Some of the villagers interviewed said people from neighbouring states of Kaduna, Kano and others now came to Daura, Katsina and Jibia on their market days to buy fried or cooked locusts.

Businessmen in the area now buy the insects in sacks, for sale in other states of the federation.

The villagers also claimed that the locust business is a lucrative one in addition to being a nourishing meal.

According to them, smoked locusts could be ground and used as crayfish in soups, cooked or fried and eaten with palm oil.

Swarms of locusts have invaded farms in the northern part of the country several times this year.

On 19 June, 54 villages in the Fune and Ika Local Government areas of Borno State were invaded by locusts barely 3 weeks after the first rain in the area.

Also, 461 villages and farmlands in the northern zone of Bauchi State were overrun by grasshoppers in an outbreak, leaving untold destruction on their trail.

The extent of damage by these insects have run into millions of naira and posed a great threat of starvation to the entire nation as many crops had been destroyed during their invasions.

/12232

Game of Nations

34000107 London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English 4 Nov 87 pp 4, 5

[Text] The Seychelles, lying astride the tanker-lanes in the strategically vital western Indian Ocean, are at the mercy of great power intrigues. Since the islands' independence, under British patronage, in 1976, they have come under a variety of influences including French, Italian, U.S., Soviet and South African. Perhaps the dominant influence at present is South African.

The South African relationship is a discreet one, so much so that President France-Albert Rene continues to undergo occasional attacks in the Western press on account of his Marxist sympathies.

Rene, who took power in a 1977 coup backed by Tanzania, has been skillful enough to stay in power despite several coup attempts which his 800-man army and tiny security service can do little to counter on their own. He is adept at trimming his natural pro-Soviet tendencies when force majeure requires. In fact Rene has come to accept South African protection, despite his ideological preferences. Characteristically, he has done so quietly and without a spectacular Sadat-style volte-face.

Rene is comfortably ensconced in power for the foreseeable future and has the skill to balance his external alliances. However he remains liable to periods of demoralization and power-fatigue during which there is renewed talk of his departure. It is thought that the president's preferred successor if he were to step down would be his stepson Glenny Savy, one of the few people he trusts.

Every domestic crisis has a strong foreign dimension. Since the first president of the islands, James Mancham, was elected with help from Britain's MI6 in 1976, and since the failure of a coup plot backed by the French secret service in 1979, the dominant struggle has been between South Africa and the USSR. Soviet policymakers now accept that they have lost the position they enjoyed in the late 1970s. They now prefer an astute long-term strategy, interestingly reminiscent of Soviet policy in Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau, other Soviet clients which are now opening up to Western influence. The Mikhail Gorbachev era seems to involve not only new faces but also a new approach to Africa (AC Vol 28 No 8).

A sign of the times is the Soviet withdrawal of their ambassador Mikhail Orlov, a high-ranking KGB officer who had previously been intelligence chief in Turkey. His presence in the Seychelles until 1987 indicates the importance the USSR attaches to the islands, where the long-term Soviet aim is to develop a base to rival the U.S. facilities on Diego Garcia. Soviet policy now is to retain a foothold in the Seychelles, to watch and to wait, distancing themselves from Rene enough to survive a

change of government. Apart from Rene himself, the Soviets' other main hope in the islands is Education Minister and army Chief-of-Staff James Michel. Development Minister Jacques Hodoul, once a good Soviet friend, has become markedly more friendly to Western and Middle Eastern diplomacy recently.

But if Soviet strategy remains interesting, South Africa is the power to watch in the Seychelles. The key change was in 1981-2, starting with the South African-backed mercenary coup attempt led by 'Mad' Mike Hoare. Several of the Hoare mercenaries were in fact South African national Intelligence Service (NIS), were captured in the operation.

The Mike Hoare operation persuaded Rene that his government could not survive in the face of overwhelming South African hostility. In 1982 the two governments came to an agreement on future relations. Publicly, the Seychelles agreed to release the six imprisoned mercenaries in return for payment of an indemnity. But there were also secret clauses to the agreement. These included:

—South African agreement to expel Seychelles dissidents from its territory. These included the late Gerard Hoarau, one of the authors of the 1981 coup attempt.

—To prevent further coup attempts from South Africa soil, and to guarantee the external security of the Rene government. During the following year South African police arrested several people suspected of plotting against the Rene government.

During the 1982 negotiations the South African secret services, and apparently Craig Williamson in particular, came to appreciate the possibilities of the extraordinary empire built by the Seychelles-based Italian businessman Mario Ricci. It was the start of a partnership which eventually led to Williamson and Ricci joining forces in business in 1986, when Williamson became managing director of the South African subsidiary of Ricci's GMR empire (AC Vol 28 No 8). Other recent South African business visitors to the Seychelles have included Hotel king Sol Kerzner, in search of foreign outlets. South African Airways have attempted unsuccessfully to negotiate landing rights in the Seychelles.

Williamson, now a member of South African's parliament and no longer officially a member of the secret service, has taken over a scheme originally dreamed up by the maverick Italian intelligence man Francesco Pazienza to use the islands as an oil distribution centre for the Indian Ocean (AC Vol 27 No 20). But the plan has been slow to get off the ground. We hear that the Italian-Swiss financier of the oil project, the Societe Anonyme Suisse d'Explorations Agricoles (SASEA) has now pulled out. In 1985 SASEA Director Manfredi

Lefebvre d'Ovidio negotiated a participation in the development Seychelles oil facilities with Ricci and the government (AC Vol 28 No 10), but he has now lost interest.

The latest financiers to show interest in the Seychelles' potential as an oil distribution centre are Arab. Development Minister Hodoul visited Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates in July and August, and discussed a loan from the Islamic Development Bank for development of the oil-bunkering facilities on Mahe Island. One theory is that the government seeks only to sell more fuel to visiting French tunaboats. But certainly South Africa hopes to benefit from development of the islands' oil facilities. South Africa needs to be confident of its long-term influence in the Seychelles before investing heavily in oil ventures.

President Rene is not South Africa's ideal candidate for the presidency. That dubious distinction rather belongs to the former Defense Minister Ogilvy Berlouis, who was encouraged by his South African friends to make a bid for power in August 1986 while Rene was away at the conference of the Non-aligned movement in Zimbabwe (AC Vol 27 No 20). According to South African intelligence, the Soviet KGB, informed of the plan, tipped off the Indian secret service. Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was at the same conference in Harare, personally passed the tip on to Rene and lent him his private jet for a speedy return to the Seychelles. Others say the tip came straight from the Seychelles to Rene. Either way, Berlouis and four of the five army majors were sacked but not detained. Berlouis continues to spend much of his time in the Seychelles, but also travels widely. He does contract work for the South African

political risk consultancy firm Longreach. Longreach is another product of the fertile brains of Craig Williamson and Mario Ricci (AC Vol 28 no 8).

As for the USA, its attitude is curiously similar to the current Soviet one. It is a stance of wait-and-see. Even in Rene's most pro-Soviet period he was always careful to renew the lease on the U.S. satellite tracking station in the Seychelles. The U.S. authorities have a reasonable relationship with the Rene government and refuse to be panicked by the occasional anti-Rene scare stories in the American press. France, too, continues to maintain a correct relationship, concentrating on commercial and cultural matters. British interests in the former British colony have been all-but superseded by others.

Long-term, the Western position is a powerful one. For while Rene remains unpopular in the islands, as much because of the arrogance of his one-party rule as anything else, the nature of opposition has changed since his accession to power in 1977. The islanders have grown richer and have developed a taste for consumer goods. Opposition nowadays is directed less at civil rights abuses and the irksome National Youth Service than at complaints about the cost of living. Rene's current economic problems are his biggest source of domestic concern.

A coup looks unlikely. Although the army still carries the scars from a 1982 mutiny and from the sacking of four of its five top-ranking officers last year, any threat of trouble is countered by the development of a 150-strong elite force trained by Belgian mercenary Bob Nodynn. The new force is said to be well-equipped and to have good morale.

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POLITICAL

Police Warn of Stepped-Up Infiltration of ANC in Western Transvaal

34000222 Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English
30 Nov 87 p 10

[Text] Walvis Bay—Armed African National Congress members were planning to or had already infiltrated the Zeerust area of the Western Transvaal with instructions to place landmines on farm roads used by security forces, the chief of the security police, Lieutenant General Johannes Van der Merwe, said yesterday.

Briefing journalists visiting a police camp in Walvis bay, he warned of the ANC's intention to step up its armed struggle against South Africa during the festive season. Recently obtained information indicated that 14 ANC members intended infiltrating the Western Transvaal.

Botswana was being increasingly used as an infiltration route, with attempts being made to get that country's government to sanction the use of its territory.

"They have already illicitly been using Botswana as an entry route for a number of years anyway, but are pushing for cooperation from the authorities there."

Gen Van der Merwe said the ANC was now concentrating more on "local" training of its members, not in secret camps, but in a "face to face basis by terrorists trained outside the country."

He said the advantages were that the trainees would not be noticeable absent from their homes for a long time, and the risks of entering and leaving the country illegally were eliminated.

Also, frustration in far-away foreign camps was not present and the identity of the trainee insurgents was not known to other members of the ANC in the field.

"Another advantage for them is that they cannot be pointed out by rehabilitated terrorists who were trained outside the country."

An indication of the importance of local training for the ANC was that 77 of the 132 trained terrorists arrested so far this year were trained inside the country.

Taking the period starting after the 1976 Soweto riots, Gen Van der Merwe said it was significant that most of the 631 terrorist acts up to the end of 1986 had taken place over the last 2 years.

On the percentage basis, it amounted to over 54 percent.

This year so far, there had been 195 terrorist actions.

On an average per month, incidents had risen from 2.45 in 1976, to 11.33 in 1985 and 19.08 last year.

Where the actions from 1976 to 1984 were mainly against railways, government and public buildings and attacks on policemen—in line with the trend of the 60s—a total of operative emphasis had taken place over the last 3 years.

"The ANC in 1985 and 1986 mainly directed their attacks on civilians (41.64 percent) and on the police (26.58 percent).

"This tendency continued over the six months up to June this year, with the attacks on civilians, mostly Black local authority leaders increased to 44.24 percent and those against the police rising to 35.39 percent in relation to other targets."

Giving a more detailed breakdown of already announced totals of ANC members killed (34) and arrested (319) so far this year, Gen Van der Merwe said 18 of the dead were trained outside the country.

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Fear of CP Victory in Next Year's Election Grows

34000223a Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR*
in English 6 Dec 87 p 4

[Article by David Breier, political correspondent: "Nats Stamping Back to the Laager"]

[Text] Parliamentarians believe the government is stampeding back into the laager back into the laager after having taken a few nervous steps into the open during the past few months.

They report that the order has gone out from the top to toughen the government's image and cut down on reform to counter the right-wing onslaught in crucial elections next year.

The new "kragdadige" approach has dashed hopes for the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, despite the recent release of Mr Govan Mbeki.

The increasingly hardline attitude has also antagonised Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha movement and removed any immediate chance of his participation in the government's proposed National Council for blacks.

And it is also likely to limit the number of group areas to be opened to all races next year, especially in the Transvaal, although more could be opened in the Cape.

The Nats' immediate concern is to counter the Conservative Party in municipal elections, which will be fought on a party-political basis for the first time in many towns and cities.

Municipal elections for all four races groups will be held in October next year. But the real headache for the government lies in the challenge by the CP, especially in the Transvaal.

The CP is almost certain to capture control of a number of municipalities. This would be a major blow to the Nats, who have placed great emphasis on local government and regional services councils.

Two parliamentary by-elections in Standerton and Schweizer-Reneke, both in the Transvaal, are due to be held early next year. The Nats will use the by-elections to test their increasingly verkrampf image if the Nats wrest these two Transvaal platteland seats from the CP, which first captured them in this year's parliamentary elections, it would be a major boost to NP morale for the vital municipal elections.

And in addition to these elections, there is still the possibility of yet another parliamentary general election if the coloured Labour Party adheres to its threat to force an early election unless the Group Areas Act is abolished.

Mr Nic Olivier, the Progressive Federal Party's research chief, said the NP and CP were mobilising massive resources for the municipal elections which would be a major show of strength.

"The government is extremely anxious not to prejudice its own case by doing anything which might be misinterpreted or exploited by the CP. This will be a long drawn-out campaign and will be unpleasant in many ways," he said.

Over the past year, the pace of reform and the emphasis on strong security action have tended to coincide with election campaigns.

The government shelved its group areas reforms and concentrated on security before 6 May white parliamentary elections this year. Despite this, the CP gained ground and took over from the PFP as the official Opposition.

But in the following months President Botha announced that there would be some open areas, and he announced anew policy on the release of security prisoners in terms of which they would no longer have to renounce violence.

But after the release of the first batch of political prisoners, including Mr Mbeki, ministers indicated privately that they had been inundated with negative letters from white voters criticising the move. This has drastically reduced the chances of Mandela's release.

Mr Adriaan Volk, minister of law and order, and Lieutenant-General Johan van der Merwe, chief of the security police, have blamed Mr Mbeki for taking instructions from the banned African National Congress since his release.

They have also emphasized that the revolutionary climate is still high and is being promoted by "legal radical organisations" such as the United Democratic Front and The Congress of South African Trade Unions.

A month ago, relations between the government and Chief Buthelezi were looking rosy. The new Natal-kwaZulu Joint Executive Authority had been launched, the prospects for Mandela's release were growing and so were the prospects of Chief Buthelezi participating in the National Council.

Chief Buthelezi insists that Mandela and other political prisoners be released before he can take part in the National Council.

Two things have dashed this euphoria: the chances of Mandela's release have dwindled, and Mr Chris Heunis, the minister of constitutional development, made an unexpected and outspoken attack on the Indaba proposals which are supported by Inkatha.

Mr Heunis said the Indaba proposals failed to make provision for adequate power-sharing and he regretted that the proposals were being actively promoted by "certain people."

Mr Heunis, who prides himself on being the government's chief reformer, appears to have been forced to toe the line and adopt the new hard-line approach aimed at preventing a CP election breakthrough—even at the expense of constitutional development.

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Former HNP Leader Contemplates Joining CP
*34000223b Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR
in English 6 Dec 87 p 4*

[Article by David Breier: "Stofberg: HNP Loss Could Be CP's Gain"]

[Text] Mr Louis Stofberg has resigned as general secretary of the Herstigte Nasionale Party in a move that could further strengthen the Conservative Party—now the official Opposition in Parliament.

The SUNDAY STAR learnt this week that Mr Stofberg, who has played a major role in keeping the HNP alive through his organising and fund-raising skills, is contemplating joining the CP.

He was unavailable for comment this weekend.

Mr Stofberg is the only HNP candidate to have won a seat in Parliament since the HNP broke away from the NP in 1969. He took Sasolburg in a by-election in 1985, but lost it in the general election this year.

The CP announced this weekend that its candidate in the Schweizer-Reneke parliamentary by-election to be held early next year would be Dr Pieter Mulder, son of former Minister of Information Dr Connie Mulder.

Dr Pieter Mulder came within only 558 votes of capturing the Potchefstroom seat from Mr Louis le Grange, the speaker of Parliament, in the general election of 6 May.

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Former Police Commissioner Urged To Stand for Parliament

*34000224b Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR
in English 6 Dec 87 p 4*

[Article by John MacLennan: "General Coetzee May Come Back—In Parliament"]

[Text] General Johan Coetzee, former Commissioner of Police, is being pressed to return for Parliament as a National Party Candidate.

The man who had joined the mounted police at 16 did not ride into the sunset this year when he inexplicably retired prematurely at the pinnacle of his career to join an obscure government committee dealing with stability and progress in the Eastern Cape.

An official source said it was understood General Coetzee would make himself available for nomination when the opportunity arose.

It was felt in Nationalist circles, he said, that the most accomplished and near-legendary figure in the country's annals of crime and espionage could make a solid contribution in Parliament.

He is given credit, through his presence on the TBVC Liaison Committee, for easing tensions and improving relations between Transkei and Ciskei. He was a member of the committee during the revolt which saw the demise of the Matanzimas.

General Coetzee this week conceded that he had considered a political career.

There are no vacant seats in the Eastern Cape, where he is expected to stand, at the moment.

However, sources said that Mr Thys Matthee, MP for Queenstown, had mentioned on occasion that he would like to retire and that his health was not up to scratch. Mr Matthee could not be reached for comment but his son this week denied that he was considering retirement.

The sources point out that Queenstown would be a logical seat for General Coetzee because he has farms in the Eastern Cape.

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Lebowa Government Sets Conditions for Joining National Council

*34000223c Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
3 Dec 87 p 13*

[Article by Sello Rabothata: "National Council: Lebowa Sets Conditions"]

[Text] The Lebowa Government will not participate in the proposed National Statutory Council until political prisoners are released and exiles allowed to return and be part of such deliberations, Mr Noko Ramodike, the homeland's chief minister said this week.

Mr Ramodike was addressing a press conference on his return from a four-country visit abroad where he tried to attract industrialists to invest in Lebowa.

Mr Ramodike said South Africa could not have apartheid and foreign friends at the same time.

"The only way South Africa can get rid of apartheid is to first do away with its holy cows that cannot be milked... the Group Areas Act and the Population Registration Act.

"That is why we in Lebowa will not opt for independence. We reject now and forever the question of independence which we view as self-strangulation.

"A clause is to be entrenched in our constitution so that anybody who has made promises of us opting for independence will not be able to turn back the clock," Mr Ramokike said.

He said the National Statutory Council was not a good starting point for the South African Government to dismantle apartheid.

Mr. Ramodike said: "I do not see our way clear as far as participation is concerned and in this I have the support of my Cabinet. We would have to get a mandate from the people of Lebowa and this would be impossible because they are aggrieved.

"They are aggrieved because they have been robbed of their land and incorporated into KwaNdebele which is to opt for independence. The people in Moutse, 120,000 of them, have bought land in the area and they are to lose it because of incorporation.

"Many others in Phalaborwa, Segosese and other areas in Lebowa are aggrieved because of the action of South African."

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Columnist Expresses Concern About Rise of Extreme Right Wing
34000225b Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English
1 Dec 87 p 14

[Commentary by Joe Thlobe in 'Perspective' column:
"Relic from the Past Rears Its Ugly Head"]

[Text] I felt a cold shiver run down my spine as I read the SUNDAY STAR's interview with the leader of the Blanke Bevrydingsbeweging, Professor Johan Schabert.

Just in case you missed it, this is how THE SUNDAY STAR reported his views on the urban blacks, on me: "The BBB economic order would be technological, and labour-intensive. Blacks were assessed not as a labour pool but as a 'hostile, parasitical invasion force' with occupational status. They would be sent back to the homelands. Soweto would be cleared out."

Parasitical invasion force indeed.

I can already anticipate the responses from the white world: Please ignore the man... he is a relic from a past that is buried. Has it in fact been buried?

About 600 people recently attended a rally to launch the BBB in the East Rand. Recently, armed thugs of the BBB marched through the streets of Mayfair, Johannesburg. These creatures are real.

Married

According to the writer of the article, Prof Schabert is married and has four daughters.

"Only 50 years old, the frail-looking former academic retired recently on the grounds of ill-health as professor of biochemistry at the Rand Afrikaans University.

"His academic career was outstanding and he was acclaimed here and abroad for his research work..."

Besides his four, how many other children have passed through his soiled hands?

Chill

It was while I was trying to imagine the answer to that question that the chill went down my spine.

closely related to that one is the question: How many other Schaborts are spreading poison among South Africa's children?

It is not surprising that the government has not stamped this menace out. How can they when only yesterday some people who are in government today were saying exactly the same things?

It was very official: Africans were temporary sojourners in white South Africa. Never mind that they are the natives of this beautiful land.

Changed

Granted, the lyrics of the song have changed somewhat: magnanimous white South Africa now says if I reapply for my citizenship, it will be granted to me.

They don't even see the arrogance of "offering" it.

Today Mr Chris Heunis, the minister of constitutional development, is engaged in a row with Chief Gatsha Buthelezi of KwaZulu over the KwaZulu natal Indaba. They are arguing about the protection of the rights of minorities in a constitutional dispensation.

Somebody else is asking blacks to be patient, to consider the real and legitimate fears of whites when discussing changes to the present constitution.

Suffering

The irony is that the suffering and pain (not imaginary fears) of the majority have been ignored all these centuries.

Men and women who have argued for a true humanity, who have called for the protection of the rights of each individual, have been jailed, banned and even killed.

Those who put "the white man first in all respects," whatever their political colouring, are left free to continue spreading their poison.

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Natal Indian Congress Plans Drive for More Members

34000225a Durban *THE DAILY NEWS* in English
1 Dec 87 p 6

[Text] The Natal Indian Congress will launch a massive recruitment drive to bolster a "liberation alliance" and step up boycott campaigns against the government.

Office Bearers Elected

Veteran activist Mr George Sewpershad was re-elected president of the NIC at a weekend meeting.

Other executive members are: Vice Presidents—Professor Jerry Coovadia, Mr Mewa Ramgobin, Mr Billy Nair and Mr A.S. Chetty. Mr Chetty has been active in the Pietermaritzburg "peace talks" between UDF and Inkatha.

The two joint-secretaries are Dr Farouk Meer and Mr A. Karrim, and Mr Hassim Seedatis treasurer. Other well-known activists elected to the executive are attorney Mr Zac Yacob, Mr Yunus Mahomed, Mr Yunis Karrim, Mr Paul David, Mr Thamba Pillay, Mrs Ella Ramgobin and Mr S.L. Joseph.

In a secretarial report prepared by the conference organising committee released today, the NIC—founded by Mahatma Ghandi in 1896—admitted it had been unable to convert itself into a “truly mass organisation.”

In the past the NIC's policy had been to rely on a hard-core of committed activists rather than “mobilising the masses.” This had led to accusations that it was run by a “clique” and that the conduct of some individuals had not been up to scratch.

This had resulted in their inability to check “government collaborators” making inroads among Indians—as happened in the Tongaat by-election last week where the ruling National People's Party more than doubled its vote in comparison with the embarrassing low polls in the 1984 tricameral elections. According to the report, this was largely because the NIC had been severely harassed by the state and consequently the organisation lacked cohesion. This had also resulted in an inability to address insecurities of the Indian community, particularly in relation to questions of majority rule.

The quality of activists had in some regards been “deficient in spirit and militancy,” resulting in an inability to “agitate and mobilise the masses for a more active role on the struggle.”

These weaknesses were now being redressed, said the report and the NIC planned to “reassert its position of leadership” in the Indian community.

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Teachers, Public Servants Try To Find Loophole in Law Before Elections

34000224a Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR*
in English 6 Dec 87 p 4

[Article by David Breier, political correspondent: “Secret Plot To Beat Gag on Teachers”]

[Text] Next year's nationwide municipal elections, to be held on a party-political basis, threaten to develop into a farce for hundreds of teachers and other public servants standing for election as “independents.”

Secret plans are already under way for teachers and public servants to sign private documents undertaking to support party caucuses in their town or city council if they are elected as independents.

This charade is aimed at finding a loophole in the legal ban on public political activities by teachers and public servants.

Teachers and public servants have traditionally played a major role in local government, especially in smaller municipalities. This is entirely legal—provided they do not indulge in public politicking.

Most municipalities have until now been overtly non-political, although there is usually an undercurrent of politics and local people known which party their councillors really support.

The Johannesburg, Randburg and Sandton City Councils are overtly political. But next year's municipal elections will be fought on a party-political basis throughout the country, and especially in Transvaal.

The National Party and the Conservative Party are set to confront each other in a particularly bitter battle for the control of local authorities.

Some of their most powerful election candidates will be teachers and public servants who have long played a leading role as mayors and local management committee members on an ostensibly non-political basis.

Teachers and public servants may stand for municipal elections if they have the permission of the relevant minister or administrator.

They will still be effectively precluded by law from standing on a party ticket and will have to stand as “independents”—but the parties which they support will not oppose them, and local voters will be well aware which party they really belong to.

The *SUNDAY STAR* learnt this week that the CP would require such candidates to sign a private undertaking to support the CP caucus if they were elected. Only then will the CP not oppose them and give them tacit support.

A spokesman for the Department of Development Planning said this week the real problem would arise when one of these “independents” stood up in council to make a speech on any contentious issue which could be described as political.

The Public Service Act states that no public servant may make a public speech to promote or prejudice the interests of any political party.”

He said speeches made in open council meetings were without a doubt “public speeches” and fell under this ban. This would effectively gag such quasi-independent councillors from saying anything controversial as they would then be taking sides with a political party, he said.

To add further to the confusion, black, coloured and Indian authorities will turn a blind eye to—and even welcome—teachers and public servants standing, even under party-political banners.

A spokesman for the white Department of Education and Culture said: "Teachers may, with the necessary approval, participate in municipal elections provided that they adhere to stipulations regarding civil and political rights of teachers, which preclude them from promoting part-political views and objectives."

Mr Albert Nothnagel (NP Inesdal), who is conducting a campaign against right-wing teachers who try to influence their pupils, said: "The present restrictions make it difficult for teachers to stand for a political party. They will have to stand as quasi-independents."

"I would have no objection if these regulations were changed to allow teachers and other officials to stand for political parties as long as their political standpoints did not affect their work."

This had nothing to do with the way some teachers abused their positions in classrooms to influence their pupils, he said.

Mr Sam Moss, leader of the Progressive Federal Party in the Johannesburg City Council, agreed that the law should be changed.

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ECONOMIC

CSS Figures for Economically Active Population
34000243c Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English
3 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] About 36 percent of 2.9 million coloureds and 34 percent of 906,000 Indians and 19.3 million blacks were economically active last year, Central Statistical Services (CSS) figures show.

CSS reports 16 percent of the coloured workers were semi-skilled, 24 percent of Indians did clerical work and 22 percent of blacks worked in services.

The report says 25 percent of coloured and 25 percent of black workers earned R200-R319 a month, while 198 percent of Indians earned R400-R599 a month.

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Northern Transvaal Experiencing Serious Drought
34000244c Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English
1 Dec 87 p 3

[Article by Gerald Reilly]

[Text] Pretoria—The greater Part of the northern Transvaal is in the grip of the most serious drought seen in the past 7 years, a Transvaal Agricultural Union spokesman has said.

TAU regional representative in the area Wille Lewies said an urgent look would have to be taken at adjusting the government's drought aid scheme to assist distressed farmers.

Bushveld farmers were worried about drought-wasted pasture lands.

Cattle in large numbers had to be removed from the area and there was little hope of winter grazing.

Lewies said rivers had dried up and bankruptcy stared irrigation farmers in the face.

Dam Levels Rise

If farmers could make no further plantings, other aid schemes would have to be considered.

"The critical conditions stretch across the whole of the northern Transvaal bushveld from Thabazimbi and Ellisras to Messina," he said.

Meanwhile, Vaal dam and other dams in the Vaal River system and in other parts of the province continued to rise.

Yesterday Vaal Dam reached 76 percent full with a continuing strong inflow of 489 cubic metres a second. It is likely to exceed 80 percent by the weekend. Sterkfontein was 35 percent full, Bloemhof 24 percent and Woodstock 101.4 percent.

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Transvaalers Pay More Tax

34000244b Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English
1 Dec 87 p 2

[Article by Gerald Reilly]

[Text] Transvaal taxpayers are contributing the lion's share to government's total take from all forms of taxation, Inland Revenue Bulletin of Statistics says.

In the 1986 tax year, individual income tax assessed for Transvaal taxpayers amounted to more than half the total of all four provinces.

The amount was R3,441m (58.4 percent) of the total, from a total taxable income of R17,251m (53.92 percent) from 888,644 taxpayers (48.66 percent).

tax assessed in the other provinces was : Cape R1,358m, (23.5 percent) from taxable income total of R8,323m, (26.02 percent) earned by 544,343 taxpayers (29.81 percent). Natal, assessed tax R755,096,456 (12.82 percent), from a total taxable income of R4,509m earned by 282,008 (15.46 percent) taxpayers.

Non-Resident Tax

And Free state, assessed tax R309,1m (5.25 percent) of a total taxable income of R1,762m (5.51 percent), earned by 102,444 (5.61 percent) taxpayers.

In total for the 1986 year, 1,826,245 individual taxpayers earned R31,991m and paid a total of R5,891m. The figure included non-resident tax.

During the year the biggest tax take came from 156,509 taxpayers in the earnings bracket between R25,000 and R 30,000—R861,172,000.

In the category "over R250,000," 480 taxpayers paid R87,456,000.

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Gazankulu Gold-Mining Venture Heralds More Profitable Enterprises

34000243b Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR* (Finance) in English 6 Dec 87 p 9

[Article by Frank Jeans]

[Text] The new mining venture in Gazankulu, which is expected to produce gold valued at R164 million at current prices, could be the forerunner of a much more profitable enterprise.

Not only are there more rich deposits identified within the extensive claims area, with exploration work expected to result in new reserves, but the words of South African geologist extraordinary Hans Merensky are about to be proved true.

Back in the thirties, Merensky, in a report on the Klein Letaba mine, believed that the area "would prove to be a substantial gold field providing major tonnages and major quantities."

Capitalising on the forecast is the newly formed Gazankulu Gold Mining Company (Gazgold)—a project put together by well-known mining figure Syd Newman, former chairman of Lonrho, his son Hugh, and another young entrepreneur, Richard Eaton.

Gazgold has 14 prospects in the area near Guyani, including Klein Letaba which was closed in 1968 when the gold price then made the workings uneconomic.

Now proven reserves are put at R164 million with a mining life of about 10 years.

Producing 55 tons of gold during that decade will give the new company a potential profitability—at the current gold price—of R30,000 a kilogram or R89 million, by 1997.

It appears, though, that this is only the beginning, for 10 other prospects have already been identified, with some revealing visible gold.

"We are expecting forthcoming exploration work to give some very positive results," says Hugh Newman, "and some very dramatic grades."

Klein Letaba and its sister mines, Louis Moore and Franke, are being reopened tomorrow by Gazankulu's Chief Minister, Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi.

It is intended to start mining in August 1988 on a scale of 3,000 tons a month, increasing to 8,000 tons later in the year.

In addition, 2,000 tons a month will be transported from the Franke Mine to give the necessary flexibility.

Should tonnage from Klein Letaba reach 10,000 tons a month—a target which it is confidently expected to meet—production at Franke will then be suspended.

At Louis Moore, another one of the 14 prospects, the carbon-in-leach plant with milling facilities and a capacity of 5,000 tons a month is currently being rehabilitated and put into prime working order. This mine will be reopened late next year.

The spark to the new venture came when Hugh Newman visited Gazankulu a few years ago in the hope of finding opportunities for his construction firm.

He heard about the dump on the Klein Letaba gold mine through his friend, Richard Eaton, a director of an adjacent mine and they undertook investigations.

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Black Spending Power Rises

34000243a Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English 2 Dec 87 p 1

[Article by Robyn Chalmers]

[Text] Black workers' pay has risen 20-22 percent in real terms since 1983, Perry and Associates MD Mike Perry says in the group's annual publication Early Warning.

He says employed blacks' disposable income has seen a real rise because of strong union pressure for increases and a lowering of the tax they have had to pay. Rent boycotts also helped their income.

In comparison, he says, tax and inflation have ravaged whites' pay increases.

Union and foreign pressure and the skills shortage are ensuring the promotion of blacks, he says.

A recent SA Institute of Race Relations report estimates SA will need 116,000 new managers by the year 2000 of which 40,000 are expected to be white.

Perry sees meaningful sales increases only in the black market. For example

- Liquor (black consumption on the Rand is already worth more than the entire national white market);
- Minibuses (blacks are said to buy 4 of every 10 sold);
- Bank cards (blacks hold 1 in every 6);
- grocery wholesalers (those distributing to shops serving blacks grow faster than supermarkets).

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SOCIAL

Mining Official Says 4,000 Jobs Lost Because of Recent NUM Strike

34000239a Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English
30 Nov 87 p 19

[Text] Thousands of jobs have been lost in the mining industry as a result of the recent strike by National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) members a senior mine official has said.

Western Deep Levels general manager, Mr Fred Bayley quoted in the MINING SUN NEWSPAPER, said 4,000 jobs would be lost due to the closure of two Anglo American shafts. MINING SUN is a mouthpiece of the Chamber of Mines.

Mr Bayley said: "On reflection, however, it would seem a small benefit to have been achieved for considerable discomfort and the loss of wages for 21 days. In addition to the loss of wages, board and lodging fees were deducted from each man on strike.

"Far worse is the fact that 4,783 were discharged as a direct result of the strike, and a further 3,456 were discharged as a result of disciplinary action being taken against them for such acts as intimidation, violence, damage to property and for being absent without permission after the completion of the strike."

The mine official said it should be noted that there was a "significant reduction" in the number of jobs available in the industry.

Agreed

He said although it had been agreed "returning labour" would be reemployed, those employees dismissed during or after the strike for misconduct would not be employed again.

"In fact the whole strike was an exercise in futility and human tragedy and our manning programme has suffered as a result of this action," Mr Bayley said.

NUM general secretary Mr Cyril Ramaphosa told the SOWETAN that his union would contest the dismissals in the Industrial court. He said mine bosses were using the strike "as a pretext to get rid of certain mineworkers."

Thousands of mineworkers went on strike in August this year demanding 30 percent wage increases.

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Blacks Not To Benefit From Closure of White Schools

34000239b Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English
1 Dec 87 p 9

[Article by Roger Smith]

[Text] More white education facilities can be expected to be closed down—but government shows no inclination to hand them over to education departments for other races whose facilities are increasingly overburdened.

This picture is clear from recent statistics on declining white pupil numbers, increasing black pupil numbers and a statement by (white) Education and Culture Minister Piet Clase on the question of re-allocation of facilities.

According to a report by the Institute for Future Research at Stellenbosch University, an increasing number of white schools will become empty or only partly occupied. By implication, white teachers' training colleges and related institutions will also become underutilised.

The report said the annual output of white matriculants will drop by 10,000 from 63,000 in 1984 to about 53,000 in the year 2000, as a result of the declining white birth rate.

In the same period, black matriculants are expected to increase from 40,000 to 186,000, while between 1986 and the year 2000 coloured matriculants will rise from

11,900 to 18,700 and Indians from 9,700 to 14,400. It was disclosed in Parliament earlier this year there were more than 200,000 vacant classroom desks in white schools.

Against this background Clase announced cut-backs in white education last month, saying the greater cost-effectiveness must be achieved.

But he made it clear the re-allocation of facilities for coloured Indian or black education had a low priority, and made no provision for re-allocation for possible mixed-race education. He gave higher priority to re-allocation to other white "own affairs" departments and state departments.

The results of this policy are already being seen. Notable recent instances include a decision to hand over the Paarl Teachers' Training College buildings to the SADF.

In Johannesburg's integrated suburb of Mayfair, many complaints have centered on the fact a local white school was closed down and the building handed over to the Post Office. Black residents say their children have to attend distant schools.

PPF spokesman on education Roger Burrows condemned "these developments which cause extreme unhappiness, where buildings designed specifically as training facilities or schools are not used as such because of problems regarding Group Areas or government policy."

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Right-Wing Anti-Semitic Publication Appears in Western Cape

34000239c Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR*
in English 6 Dec 87 p 12

[Article by Ada Stuijt]

[Text] A President's Council member has demanded a high-level investigation into the organisation behind the CAPE REBEL, a new anti-Semitic publication, which is published by a group of right-wingers in the Western Cape.

It claims that Ashkenazi Jews (those who originated mainly from Poland and Russia) should be considered Asians—and therefore had no right to be on the white voters' rolls in this country.

The CAPE REBEL's first edition in September has already been banned by the Publications Control Board for containing statements which might incite racial hatred.

Mrs Anne Routier, a member of the President's Council, who also works at the National Party offices in Bryanston in the Transvaal, said shocked a family member had given her a copy of the CAPE REBEL's October edition.

It was handed out by four men sporting badges of the Blanke Bevrydingsbeweging (BBB) at a recent book launch at Goodwood Civic Centre.

The book, "Churchill's War Volume One" was written by a known British right-winger, Mr David Irving, who was on hand to autograph the 700-page hard-cover tome.

Mrs Routier said the family member, who did not wish to be identified, had not known the author's background before attending the Goodwood launch and had been shocked by seeing the CAPE REBEL there.

Mr Simon Jocum of the Jewish Board of Deputies' Cape Council, said the pamphlet had been brought to their attention and the matter was being looked into.

He said the council was "angered and objected very much to this publication, which is sowing the seeds of racial hatred."

A reader's letter in the 12-page pamphlet also launched a viciously personal attack on the State President, Mr P.W. Botha, besides having strong anti-Semitic overtones.

Mr Keith Conroy, one of the pamphleteers at the book launch—he is the leader of the Cape's Brandwag, the civil guard unit of the Afrikaner Weerstandbeweging (AWB)—confirmed that he had been passing out the pamphlets, with permission from the meeting's organizers.

The British-born immigrant, who openly admits to being a neo-Nazi and has a large weapons arsenal at home, this week denied that THE CAPE REBEL had any connection either with the AWB or the BBB.

"We are a group of concerned whites who started this publication to draw together all right-wingers in the Western Cape," he said.

"I wrote an article in the first issue about racial purity and it probably got banned for that very reason," he chuckled.

Publisher of THE CAPE REBEL is Mr Wynand de Beer of Goodwood, who defended the anti-Semitic remarks in the October issue "as biological truths which do not often get published in this country."

The banned first edition was sent to 200 subscribers, and the second edition to 500 subscribers countrywide, besides having been distributed at the book launch, attended by about 300 people, he said.

He also confirmed that THE CAPE REBEL had no direct links with the AWB or the BBB.

Mr de Beer challenged Mrs Routier or anyone else to disprove his contention that Ashkenazi Jews shouldn't be on the white voters' rolls.

"I will publish any discussion on this in THE CAPE REBEL. I'd like to see an intelligent public discussion about it," he said.

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Call To Strengthen Ties To Bulgaria
34000234d Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English
11 Nov 87 p 5

[Text] The Zambia-Bulgaria Joint Permanent Commission of Cooperation should meet more often to overcome the bottlenecks hampering the bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Minister of State for Finance, Cde Mbambo Sianga, said it was unfortunate that the commission has not met for a long time because it was only through mutual discussions that remedies to overcome any bottlenecks could be worked out.

Cde Sianga was speaking during the fifth session of the commission at Mulungushi Hall in Lusaka.

He said the Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation has only met four times since its inception in 1978 and has had to be postponed several times.

"One reason for the postponements was to allow more time for the implementation of the resolutions of the fourth session before the fifth session could be held," he said.

The minister also noted that the majority of the projects identified for cooperation during the fourth session had not been implemented.

"On our part, the slow pace towards realising mutual goals set by our countries has been largely as a consequence of the unfavourable economic conditions," he said.

However, he said the economic situation should not be used as an excuse for weakening bilateral ties between the two countries.

And Deputy Minister of Trade for Bulgaria, Cde Nikola Kalchev, who was leading the delegation, proposed that three groups be formed to implement the assignments given in the protocol agreement.

Meanwhile industrialised nations have been urged to fix fair prices for raw materials they buy from the Third World.

Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane made the call at a luncheon he hosted for Bulgarian deputy minister of trade, Cde Nikola Kalchev, who is leading an 11-man delegation of the Zambia-Bulgaria Joint Permanent Commission of Cooperation.

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ZAMBIA

Bulgaria To Provide Training
34000052b Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English
14 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] Bulgaria will start training Zambia National Services builders brigade personnel.

This follows the signing of an agreement in Lusaka yesterday between Zambia and Bulgaria at the end of the Joint Permanent Commission meeting.

The two sides also agreed to strengthen ties in various fields such as agriculture, industry and trade and exchange of visits of all levels.

Speaking after the signing ceremony at the end of minister of state, Mbambo Sianga, called for the talks which were held at Mulungushi Hall, finance implementation of what has been agreed upon during deliberations. [sentence as received]

Bulgarian deputy minister of trade, Nikola Kalenev, who led his country's delegation to the meeting, praised the relations that existed between the two countries adding that this was characterised by the visit to his country by Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane this year.

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Norwegian Aid for Agricultural, Rural Development
34000235c Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English
10 Nov 87 p 5

[Text] The Norwegian government will give Zambia K300 million spread over 4 years for agricultural and rural development as soon as the two governments sign an agreement.

The financial package was disclosed after talks between Norad resident representative in Zambia, Mr Jacob Storass, and Northern Province Permanent Secretary, Comrade James Mtonga, in Kasama.

A statement released in Lusaka said the two teams noted the continuation on the sector agreement regarding agricultural and rural development in Zambia which Norway provides for K300 million for the next 4 years.

"This agreement will be signed in Lusaka soon," the statement said.

Norad also promised to extend its help in the province to include the building of roads, setting up small-scale enterprises and developing the fisheries industry.

In the past Norad restricted its aid in the province to the agricultural sector alone.

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It was also resolved that Norad's aid be channelled through the existing Zambian system with particular emphasis on provincial administration.

"The Kasama discussions, however, concentrated on the utilisation of the 1988 budget which amounts to K70 million," the statement said.

The Norwegian delegation welcomed the announcement by President Kaunda that government will review the exchange rate of the Kwacha and decontrol prices before the next budget.

"In this regard the Norwegian government has confirmed its continued assistance to the recovery of the Zambian economy," the statement said.

Norad also appreciated Zambia's efforts on environmental protection. Norway was prepared to give additional assistance in this sector over and above the country's programme.

Meanwhile, Norad has given over K130,000 to the Ndola Urban District Council to enable it to renovate a maternity clinic in Chifubu.

According to the latest council minutes, the donation which is in the form of a grant was given to the council through the Ndola Round Tablers as Contribution to the council's community development projects.

One of the conditions of the Norad grant is that the council should use members of the community on the project whose estimated cost is K101,000.

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UNITA Activities Along Border Viewed
34000236a Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
22 Oct 87 p 9

[Article by Pascal Fletcher and Jimbe Bridge: "Zambia Keeps Eye on Volatile Border"]

[Text] Flanked by a sun-bleached guardpost and a fluttering Zambian flag, a battered red-and-white "stop" sign and barrier bar the way.

You can't cross. It's not safe, a young Zambian customs officer tells travelers.

On the other side, a winding dirt road, heavily overgrown with grass, snakes across a narrow concrete bridge and disappears into thick forest.

There is no flag, no guardpost, no sign of life.

Jimbe Bridge, reached after a 1,000km journey along tarmac and dirt roads from Lusaka, marks the frontier between Zambia's remote northwestern corner and

Angola, where South African-backed Unita rebels are waging a war against government forces supported by Cuban troops and Soviet military advisers.

"The rebels hold the other side. It is mined" the customs officer said.

No traffic has crossed Jimbe Bridge since 1984 and UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) now claims to control all of Angola's eastern frontier with Zambia.

There is an atmosphere of listless calm at Jimbe and the handful of Zambian frontier officials are relaxed and unarmed. But not all of Zambia's remote border with war-torn Angola is as peaceful as this.

About 240km to the southwest, UNITA rebels stormed across the border last month in pursuit of Angolan government troops. They attacked the Zambian border post at Chingi, looting customs and immigration houses and abducting seven Zambians, two women and five children.

Unconfirmed reports by local residents said 60 Angolan troops were gunned down by the rebels on Zambian soil and many others wounded.

The 15 September attack fulled fears among Zambian government leaders that the war in Angola was increasingly spilling over into their country.

It followed persistent reports of sporadic, small-scale raids by UNITA over the last few months on northwest Zambian border villages, in which the rebels carried off food and goods and occasionally abducted hostages, many of them women.

Zambian leaders have condemned the raids and instructed local villagers not to give food to the rebels, many of whom have family and tribal ties with their Zambian neighbours.

We don't take the rebels lightly. Having been trained by South Africa, they are a threat to the frontline states, Zambia in particular, Zambia's secretary of state for defence and security, Alex Shapi, told Reeters.

Shapi accused South Africa of trying to create a UNITA-Controlled corridor between eastern Angola and Zambia which could then be used as a launching pad for destabilisation operations against the Zambian government.

But many diplomats in Lusaka say that they do not believe the UNITA activity represents a political threat to Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, who backed UNITA when it was a liberation movement fighting Portuguese colonial rule.

After Angolan independence in 1975, the Zambian Government severed its ties with UNITA and formally recognised the Marxist MPLA Government that emerged from the 1975-1976 civil war.

Local residents and reporters in North Western Province said UNITA rebels had been crossing Zambian Territory from Angola to sell poached game meat in neighbouring Zaire.

They had also been distributing old photographs showing President Kaunda with UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi in an apparent bid to win over Zambian villagers to their cause.

The upsurge of UNITA activity in the border area has resulted in security sweeps by Zambian forces in North-Western Province, a vast, thickly-forested and sparsely-populated region.

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Manufacturing Sector Importers Receive \$25 Million Boost

34000234c Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English
11 Nov 87 p 3

[Text] The Foreign Exchange Management Committee (FEMAC) has allocated an extra 25 million United States dollars to importers in the manufacturing sector.

The Bank of Zambia spokesman said the extra money allocated to manufacturers comes from a loan from the Africa Development Bank (ADB) to support Zambia's import needs.

The funds are for importation of raw materials, spare parts and various inputs. These have to be obtained from member states of the ADB.

The ADB procurement rules require that proceeds of ADB loans be used only for procurement in member countries of goods and services produced in those member countries," the FEMAC secretariat said in a notice to importers.

As the ADB has nonregional members, the imports may not necessarily be procured from African countries. Among continental members, Zimbabwe is likely to be the leading supplier to Zambia under this arrangement.

Meanwhile, motor assemblers face an uncertain future as they have not been allocated foreign exchange for the importation of kits since the scrapping of the foreign exchange auction system.

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Critical Beef Shortage May Cause Layoffs

34000235a Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English
12 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] Hundreds of butchery workers may soon be sent on forced leave because of the critical shortage of beef in the country, which has resulted in 100 percent price increase on some cuts.

Butcher's Association of Zambia Chairman Fidelis Kangwa said in Ndola yesterday that some traders have been pushed out of business because of the shortage caused by the foot and mouth disease epidemic in Southern Province which sw a ban on cattle movement from the area.

Butcheries receive about 80 percent of their beef from Southern Province and since the ban 3 months ago many have not received any supplies. The beef shortage has had a devastating effect on consumers who are now being forced to buy chickens, eggs and beef wherever it is available at exorbitant prices.

Defending the price increases on various cuts by some butcheries Cde Kangwa said proprietors have no alternative but to raise prices because farmers are also taking advantage of the situation.

Butcheries can only get their supplies from the Central and Western provinces and this has resulted in high prices.

A DAILY MAIL survey of butcheries in Ndola revealed that the state shops have also been affected by the shortage which has seen the closure of the Islamic Butchery, FK Butchery belonging to Cde Kangwa and Kwa and Kwe Butchery in Chifubu.

Other butcheries in Lubuto, Masala, Northrise, Kansenshi and shanties of Chipulukusu and MacKenzie were empty.

At Chifubu market prices of chickens from Mazahuka have risen to as much as K50 a rooster and K45 or K40 for hens.

In Lusaka, Zambia Cold storage Corporation Managing Director Constantine Chimanya said meat supply in the capital was not healthy.

He said the corporation was scouting for alternative source of supply and he would be leaving for Eastern Province shortly to check on the possibility of buying animals from there.

The corporation has, however, not increased its prices.

A survey in Kitwe showed that almost all butcheries have no beef.

Of the eight butcheries visited, only three Endibburgh Arcade Butchery, Chilongas Butchery in Chimwemwe and Neuman's Butchery in Parklands had beef.

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Medical Supplies, Doctor Shortage Discussed
34000235b Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English
9 Nov 87 p 1

[Article by Geoffrey Mwesa: "UTH Grinding to a Halt! We're Spectators-Docs"]

[Text] Surgical operations at Lusaka's University Teaching Hospital [UTH] will virtually grind to a halt any time because of an acute shortage of blood transfusion equipment, gloves and other life saving drugs, according to DAILY MAIL investigations.

Patients will be required to buy gloves, blood transfusion sets and drugs needed for their treatment.

Cases such as meningitis, severe infection of the kidney and bones will not be treated due to the shortage of drugs. Vitamin B tablets are also not available.

The limited drugs at the pharmacy have been reserved for those admitted cases while out-patients will only get prescriptions to purchase drugs from chemists.

The institution has 1,400 small size pairs of gloves which cannot be used by doctors who require standard sizes. A standard size fit is between sizes 7 and 8. But what is in stock are 900 pairs of size 6 and 500 size 6 and 1/2.

According to senior doctors interviewed the shortages at the institution have demoralised them as they have been reduced to a situation where they watch patients die for lack of drugs.

One doctor, who like his colleagues chose to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals from authorities, said: "We are being stretched and feel it is too much. We feel not satisfaction in our jobs. It really pains to see patients die when we could save them."

The doctors disputed Medical stores managing director Dr Patrick Chikusu's statement that there were enough drugs at Medical Stores.

Zambian doctors at the UTH held a meeting last week to discuss Dr Chikusu's assertions that Medical Stores had drugs when the hospital had nothing.

"If the Medical stores have the drugs, why have they not been supplied to hospitals been after making orders. UTH pharmacy has no medicine because Medical stores have not supplied them," doctors said.

They claimed that the UTH had issued Local Purchase Orders for drugs from the Medical Stores which had not been honoured either because there were no medicines or the Medical Stores demanded cash.

"We are interested in the truth. If we do not have drugs in the country we should say so. We should stop playing politics with the lives of the people," said one doctor.

By Friday, last week, the UTH had only two types of anti-biotics—ampicilin and penv—for out patients and in the last 3 weeks the hospital had no panadols.

The medical wards are congested because of the shortages of drugs. Some patients could not even be attended to by doctors.

The situation at the UTH has been compounded by the acute shortage of doctors. About 26 specialist doctors have left the hospital for greener pastures over the last 4 years.

Fifteen of them are working in Zimbabwe, Saudi Arabia, Lesotho, West Germany and Britain, while 11 are in Zambia in private practice and mines.

In the Surgery Department there are five senior doctors. Medicine has four, Paediatrics and Psychiatry have one each.

Radiology has one senior doctor, Surgery and Subspecialties seven, Microbiology and Immunology four, Anaesthesia one, and in Community Medicines there are two doctors.

It is feared that out of the remaining doctors the number will dwindle because of poor conditions of service by next year.

Doctors appealed to the party and its government to urgently build another hospital for the children because of the congestion at the UTH.

Meanwhile, the hospital has been hit by a critical water shortage which has forced mourners claiming bodies from the mortuary for burial to draw water from elsewhere to wash the bodies, reports ZANA.

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Interruption of Relief Food Distribution
34000234b Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English
10 Nov 87 p 5

[Text] Three district councils in Southern Province have suspended for 2 weeks relief food operations in drought hit areas to concentrate on the delivery of fertilizer and maize seeds which were in short supply in rural depots.

Areas where the famine relief operations have been suspended are Kalomo, Choma and Mazabuka.

Kalomo Governor Jonathan Singombe said his council had arranged with donor agencies to stop deliveries of food to rural areas for 2 weeks to deploy relief trucks to take fertilizer and maize seeds to remote depots.

The move to suspend food deliveries to villagers had been taken to avert hunger next year which might be caused by lack of fertilizer and maize seeds.

"We want our people to grow their own crops and not to continue to depend on food supplies from donor agencies," Cde Singombe added.

Already 18,000 bags of fertilizer have been delivered to depots in remote areas where the commodity was in short supply.

"We need 70,000 bags of fertilizer and more than 15,000 bags of maize seed for distribution to all depots in the district," he said.

Cde Singombe said his council would resume food deliveries as soon as the haulage of fertilizer and maize seeds was completed.

In Choma, Governor Nicholas Nchimunya said the council had suspended relief operations for 2 weeks and deployed Contract Haulage to deliver maize seeds from the main depot to the rural areas in readiness for the planting season.

Depots which had no seed maize last week will be supplied with the commodity within the next few days, Cde Nchimunya added.

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Angolan Refugees Resisting Resettlement at Maheba Camp

34000234a Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English
6 Nov 87 p 5

[Text] Hundreds of Angola refugees in Kabompo are reported to have gone into hiding because they are against the party and its government's idea to resettle them at Maheba in Solwezi, Governor Benjamin Chipango disclosed yesterday.

Cde Chipango said a few refugees were at Kayombo and the party in the district was now getting worried.

The governor who appealed to chiefs and village headmen not to accommodate refugees in their villages, said party and its government wanted all refugees to be resettled at Maheba because the camp has facilities to cater for them.

He expressed concern at the failure by the Ministry of Home Affairs to remove them on time saying this had enabled them to mingle with villagers thereby ending up being given settlement.

North-Western Province Regional Immigration Officer Sasten Miti could not, however, be reached for comments, but sources in his office said already officers have been sent to the area to investigate.

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HERALD Warns Against Complacency Over Unity Pact

*MB061033 Harare THE HERALD in English
28 Dec 87 p 4*

[Editorial: "No Time For Complacency"]

[Text] As the whole country and indeed all those who wish Zimbabwe well throughout the world congratulate the First Secretary and President of ZANU (PF), Cde Mugabe, and Cde Joshua Nkomo for signing the accord merging PF-ZAPU with ZANU (PF), it is all the more important that euphoria should by no means give way to complacency.

The agreement to unite will not on its own immediately bring about the cessation of the activities of the dissidents. On the contrary the dissidents and those who control them could very well double their efforts and commit further acts of banditry and terrorism in a bid to wreck the accord among the people and leadership of Zimbabwe.

The unity accord is not only bad news for the external enemies of Zimbabwe, it is also a major political blow to the dissidents as it removes from under their feet the ground upon which their propaganda against the ruling party was based.

The two last general elections proved the overwhelming support that PF-ZAPU enjoys in Matabeleland. What the unity accord means is that all that force should now be mobilized to support the new thrust arising from the unity accord.

But that is not all. What it also means is that old attitudes that prevailed among ZANU (PF) members before the unity merger was signed should and must undergo profound and fundamental changes to cope with the new situation.

It is the process of adjusting to the unity environment that will be tricky for the exercise. While the dissidents out of desperation can be expected to try and intimidate the people in Matabeleland in an effort to prevent them from identifying with the process of unification, their mentors and local agents could be expected to spread negative rumours, casting aspersions on the unity agreement to undermine its spirit and letter.

But so long as the unity accord is taken not as an end in itself but as a means to an end, providing the people of Zimbabwe for the first time in 24 years the opportunity to struggle once again for their aspirations under one umbrella, then the difficulties that may initially arise are bound to be overcome.

HERALD on Mugabe Presidency, South Africa

*MB081523 Harare THE HERALD in English
31 Dec 87 p 4*

[Editorial: "The Man for the Times"]

[Text] Today a momentous one for Zimbabwe: a true day of destiny. In a ceremony attended by all the pomp and pageantry befitting such an occasion Cde Robert Gabriel Mugabe will become Zimbabwe's first Executive President.

As such, Cde Mugabe will stay at the helm of the ship of state that, as Prime Minister, he has so ably steered since independence. It has been no easy passage. Heavy seas and shoals have been encountered, but Cde Mugabe has negotiated each and every one of them with consummate skill.

There have been times when winning the peace has been as arduous as winning the freedom struggle. Hundreds have died—and continue to die—in assorted acts of violence with their roots deep in a past that Zimbabwe should have been able to leave behind on the Chimurenga battlefield: an overspill of the frustrated ambitions of leaders overwhelmed by the massive victory ZANU (PF) scored at the post-independence elections into the savagery perpetrated by those who prefer to live by the gun than to work for the peace.

These disruptive elements have found a willing accomplice in a South Africa desperately struggling to hold back the swelling tide which must finally overwhelm apartheid.

Zimbabwe is greatly feared by those fighting their last ditch stand for white supremacy. Black nations determining their own destinies fuel, by example, the fierce determination of South Africa's masses also to be free in a land rightfully theirs.

Bloody, but quickly repulsed, incursions by the South African-backed MNR are the latest example of just how fearful Pretoria is of the symbol Zimbabwe represents to those struggling to break their bonds.

There have been other burdens for the nation to bear: the years of drought, falling world demand and prices for our minerals and agricultural produce, the foreign exchange shortage, and much else.

The burden has been great indeed and no one has borne it more staunchly than the man on whom it has fallen heaviest: Cde Mugabe, the man in whom Zimbabwe today entrusts its future.

There could be no wiser choice.

HERALD Editorial Praises Mugabe Landmark
MB081517 Harare THE HERALD in English
1 Jan 88 p 18

[Editorial: "Struggle Continues"]

[Text] The only word that can adequately express yesterday's happenings in Historic! Events of this magnitude and stature happen once in a country's lifetime and those who live through them and act to help shape them can count themselves fortunate indeed for the opportunity to march with the tide of national destiny.

As President Mugabe indicated upon assuming office, yesterday's landmark was the culmination of a long march in the country's history and struggle to achieve the political freedom which is the indispensable instrument in the charting of national strategies for the precious goal of economic independence.

Only the attainment of economic independence can justify all the sacrifices that were made in the armed struggle which led to Lancaster and the 1980 elections which gave birth to Zimbabwe.

In praising the leadership qualities of the first Executive President we also pay tribute to the heroes of the war of liberation which he led and whose spirit President Mugabe continues to embody as he leads the country along "a people-oriented revolutionary path, guided by socialist principles".

In calling for the people to give him support as individuals, as families, as the church and as the whole nation, Cde Mugabe is advocating the formation of an entire national front to overcome the economic hurdles, to defeat banditry in the region, to face up to the aggressive designs of the apartheid regime and to forge harmonious national ties within the context of the African family of nations.

So far, all the prophets of doom who foretold chaos and national dislocation of the Zimbabwean social fabric, have been confounded by the staggering realities of the eight years of our national independence.

But that alone is not enough to make our enemies repent. On the contrary they are hatching plots and fomenting disorder throughout the region and that is why our national unity is a precious commodity, which must be thrown behind President Mugabe, the party he leads and the Government for further national victories.

Envoy Cites Increasing Aid From Cuba
MB051758 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 5 Jan 88

[Text] Cuba has increased the number of Cuban doctors, engineers, and teachers working in Zimbabwe. This was disclosed in Harare today by the Cuban ambassador to Zimbabwe, Comrade Afonso Fraga, when he addressed a news conference to mark the 29th anniversary of the Cuban revolution. Comrade Fraga also disclosed that about 50,000 dollars has been raised from Cuban professionals working in Zimbabwe, and the money will be used to expand the home for children of former combatants in Marlborough in Harare. Comrade Fraga reiterated the Cuban Government's stand on that country's troops in Angola. He said Cuban troops will remain in Angola for as long as they are needed by the Angolan Government, and that Cuba will continue to fight against colonialism and exploitation. The ambassador pointed out that the defeat of apartheid will ensure the restoration of peace in southern Africa. Ambassador Fraga also pledged Cuba's continued support for the Frontline States, which are faced with unprovoked South African acts of aggression.

Export Ban Due to Drought Affects Neighboring Countries
34000221b London AFRICA ANALYSIS in English
27 Nov 87 p 9

[Text] Harare—A quietly imposed ban on international sales of maize reveals the extraordinary toll taken by drought on Zimbabwe's normally vibrant agriculture. The past season's 400,000 tons of maize offered for sale was the lowest since 1965-66. The stockpile, at a peak of more than 2.3m tons after the bumper 1986 harvest, is expected to dwindle to 800,000 tons by March next year.

The rains are already several weeks late in most of Zimbabwe. So last year's enormous government losses due to the buying in of a maize glut may be followed by import costs in 1989.

Zimbabwe export ban is bad news for Mozambique, Zambia and Malawi; all have been receiving Zimbabwean maize under World Food Programme-supported aid schemes. Zimbabwe will, however, honour its existing export agreements with all three countries, plus Botswana.

With storage costs averaging more than Z\$40 a ton per year, the past season's drought will help reduce the grain marketing board's deficit.

Drought has taken a similar toll in other sectors of Zimbabwe's agriculture. The livestock industry faces the greatest long-term damage, because since June peasants in Matabeleland, the Midlands and Manica

Province have lost more than 25,000 cattle. Commercial farm losses are far smaller, but could quickly increase unless the rains come soon.

Anglo-American's Hippo Valley Estates report that cane sugar production will be down 12 percent this year, and will fall further next year owing to lack of water for irrigation. Reductions to date have cost Z\$7m in lost foreign currency earnings.

Drought and poor world market prices contributed to a disastrous sales year for flue-cured tobacco, with the bulk of Zimbabwe's biggest export crop sold for less than production cost. As a result, up to a tenth of Zimbabwe's tobacco farmers may stop producing the crop next year. Tobacco sales volume was actually up 10 percent over 1986, to 128m kg, but revenue dropped by 20 percent.

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Seismic Studies for Oil in Zambezi Valley
34000221a London AFRICA ANALYSIS in English
27 Nov 87 p 8

[Text] Harare—Seismic studies are being made on the southern (Zimbabwe) side of the Zambezi Valley. It is suggested that viable oil deposits exist there. This is the first time that hydrocarbon exploration has been attempted in the area, although upstream of the Victoria Falls a sedimentary basin exists which has long been thought worthy of investigation.

The research is being funded by West Germany. Preliminary geological work also suggests that uranium deposits exist near Kariba Lake.

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